



Oswestry

Stephen's new look to raise cash for fund

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Welshpool

Bird hide burned to the ground by arsonists

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Property

See six pages of the latest homes on sale in the area

Pages 21-26



Taxpayers set to see a 3pc rise in precept

RESIDENTS in Oswestry will see a three per cent increase in the town precept.

On Monday night members of Oswestry Town Council agreed to increase Band D by three per cent from £65.86 to £67.83.

The decision was made after town clerk David Preston discussed the estimates of expenditure and income for 2013/14.

Mr Preston said in his report to councillors: "In discussions with the mayor we have both agreed that, without a doubt, the 2013/14 budget is a watershed for this council and also for budgets being set across the parish and town council sector."

He said council life had changed in the last 12 months and this year there was a fundamental change in how they calculated the precept.

"This is a result of council tax benefit changes introduced by the Government just a few weeks ago," he said. "Put simply, in a normal year the council would expect to see an increase in the number of properties which it would gain income from. This is no longer the case. If those additional properties have individuals claiming council tax benefits, then effectively this council will see a reduction in the values of the council tax base."

Mr Preston said a grant was being paid to councils to cover changes and Shropshire Council was passing some on.

Two arrests after assault

TWO men have been arrested on suspicion of affray following an assault outside a pub in Welshpool.

The men, aged 53 and 21, were arrested and later bailed following an incident near the Wellington Inn on Berriew Street at 1am on Sunday, when a fight was taken to hospital with facial injuries. Witnesses should call police on 101 or Crime-stoppers on 0800 555 111.

SURGEON'S TEARS AT OP DEATH HEARING

by Sue Austin

A SURGEON broke down in tears as he relived an operation at Oswestry Othopaedic Hospital in which a patient died.

Professor James Richardson struggled to keep his emotions in check giving evidence at a fitness to practice hearing in Manchester on Tuesday.

The chairman of orthopaedics and trauma surgery at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital near Oswestry, he performed keyhole surgery on the right knee of 43-year-old Mr Luigi Belcuore in October 2009.

Air being used to dry a blood clot in the cartilage surgery entered a pseudo cyst in Mr Belcuore's knee. This caused an air embolism which caused Mr Belcuore to go into cardiac arrest.

The General Medical Council has alleged that Professor Richardson failed to provide good clinical care to the patient. It says that:

- While conducting the procedure he used the device to which he had made significant modifications, not in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines;

- That he used a white 19 gauge needle when he believed he was using a green 21 gauge needle;

- That the modification and use of the device was not subject to robust and documented risk assessments;

- That he failed to ensure the patient knew about the modifications and had not gained written consent.

Device

Professor Richardson said he had performed the operation many times using the modified device.

Orthopaedic surgeons, he said, often modified devices to fit the individual operation, sometimes during surgery.

He said the patient had consented to be involved in a trial at the Orthopaedic Hospital which was comparing different methods of growing cartilage either in the laboratory or within the knee as in this case.

The surgeon broke down in tears as he described how the patient was keen to have the operation and had researched the surgery. Before having to talk the panel through parts of the operation that had been filmed the professor again struggled with his emotions. "I am very sorry for the family who have been incredibly distressed. I too am distressed for losing a patient who trusted me to undertake the procedure. I will never forget what happened. It is rare we have a death. In Oswestry we had never had a death," he said.

The hearing continues.

All ready for Romania



Emily Edwards, Heather Bontoft and Demelza Brookfield. Picture: Laura Dutfield.

YOUNGSTERS in Oswestry are preparing to go on a 16 day trip to Romania.

After taking their GCSEs, 19 year 10 pupils from The Marches School will fly out for activities including mountain trekking, visiting the castle linked to Count Dracula and building houses for some of the poorest people in Europe.

The trip has been organised in association with Snowdonia-based Outlook Expeditions and will take place in 2014.

This gives the youngsters plenty of time to raise the £1,500 cost of each ticket.

Helena Griffiths, international coordinator at The Marches School, said: "They will be carrying out fundraising events, asking for sponsorship, giving up Christmas and birthday presents as well as taking on part-time jobs in an effort to raise the money."

Anyone interested in sponsoring the students can call (01691) 664400 or visit the school website at www.marchesschool.co.uk

Specialist team will be shaping the future

A NEW specialist team of enthusiasts will be set up to shape the future of Oswestry.

Funding has been provided to set up a new town team in Oswestry in a bid to raise awareness of the town's shopping experience and attract more visitors.

A public meeting will be held at The Centre, in Oak Street, on January 29 in a bid to find members for the town team and ask local people what they think the priorities should be.

Oswestry failed in its bid to be one of Britain's new 'Portas towns', being aided after shopping guru Mary Portas' independent report on the future of high streets.

But, as a result of its bid, the town has had a funding windfall of £10,000 to use promoting and improving the town centre and it also has access to a range of expert support.

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce, Oswestry Town Council and Shropshire Council have backed the project.

Martin Anderson, chairman of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce said: "The aim is to work together on all the aspects that make up a vibrant, welcoming town centre, which people consider a great place to shop and do business."

He said the meeting would start conversations to decide who will make up the team and what it should focus on.

Crime leader in town talk

SHROPSHIRE'S police and crime commissioner is due to attend a public meeting in Oswestry on Monday to address fears over the future of local policing.

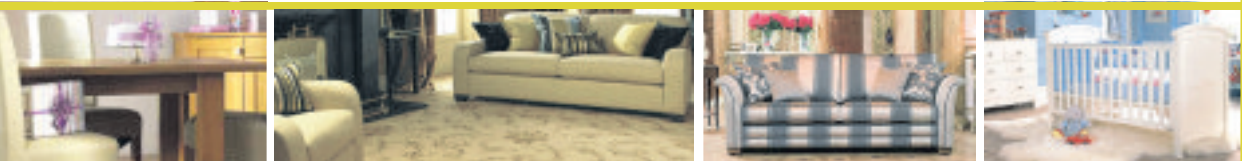
Bill Longmore has accepted an invitation to attend a meeting which has been organised by Oswestry Town Council to discuss whether the town's police station will be maintained and plans for CCTV cover.

The meeting will start at 7pm at the Attfield Theatre in the Guildhall.

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NEWS

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Town car parks suffer a £30k drop in income

by Iain St John

INCOME from Oswestry Town Council's car parks has fallen by £30,000 in the last 12 months, a report has revealed.

Council bosses say various factors including poor weather could be the reason for the fall and have vowed that use of the car parks will be 'carefully monitored' over the next financial year.

Town clerk David Preston said the falling use of the car parks was one of several 'risks' to the authority's finances in the coming year and said other factors could leave the council in an 'extremely difficult position'.

He said: "In the last 12 months we have seen a significant drop in car parking income with some £30,000 being lost."

"This affects the balance between earned income and precept."

"It could be that the problems of the last 12 months can be attributable to weather or other factors but clearly a precedent is being set that has to be carefully monitored and reacted to throughout the financial year."

"The council also have two empty properties in terms of the dispensary in the Powis Hall and the Powis Hall offices."

"In theory, this indicates an income loss at some £10,000 per annum."

"The council has also made significant changes to its market rents in the last 12 months."

"Rents have been reduced with incentive offers recognising the Portas report on The High Street and this is having a large impact."

"Our market income has declined significantly over the last 10 years and must continue to be monitored."

Councillors accepted the report and also voted to agree to a three per cent rise in the town council tax precept.

"We have a superb tourism product here in Wales, but we need to make politicians and the public aware just how important the industry is to the nation's long future."

Group's call to highlight importance of tourism

A CAMPAIGN to capture the political agenda in Wales for a week is being launched by a group representing the tourism industry.

Wales Tourism Alliance is calling on tourism associations, trade organisations and businesses to begin planning events to highlight the importance of the industry during Wales Tourism Week from February 23 and March 3.

"With their help, we aim to put tourism at the top of the political agenda in Wales," said Adrian Gresson-Walker, WTA's executive director.

"We want tourism associations, trade organisations and businesses to contact their local AM, MP or MEP and invite them to a specific event to showcase the real tourism product and emphasise the economic contribution the industry makes to local communities."

"We have a superb tourism product here in Wales, but we need to make politicians and the public aware just how important the industry is to the nation's long future."

Magical adventures with a hat



Rich Taylor, from Oswestry, with the manuscript for his children's book titled 'Beanie Boy'. Picture: Simon Williams.

A WRITER from Oswestry is about to publish his first children's book about a boy and his magical hat.

Rich Taylor, 50, from College Road, has put pen to paper to create the nine chapter novel which is due to go on sale in April.

He has also enlisted the help of his 24-year-old niece, Lucy Barrett, to create the illustrations for the book.

The book, which is aimed at seven to 12 year olds, is called Beanie-Boy and each chapter starts with the title Ever Been.

The book is a tale set in the countryside featuring a 12-year-old called Kyle who finds some wool-like material. His mum takes it off him and makes it into a new beanie hat.

Mr Taylor said: "While wearing this beanie he accidentally found he could transform into any creature within the animal kingdom. With this new-found ability he could put up a defence, in a humorous way, to whatever human or animal that chose to pick on him."

Ex-nurse appointed hospital director



Hilary Pepler

A FORMER nurse who has had a lifelong association with the National Health Service has been appointed as a non-executive director of Oswestry's Orthopaedic Hospital.

Hilary Pepler started her career in the NHS as a nurse before becoming a chief executive of a hospital trust.

Bosses at the hospital say Mrs Pepler, from Chirk, has significant experience of working at board level in both Wales and England.

She retired from the NHS five years ago, starting out as a state registered nurse in Cambridge and concluding as the chief executive of North East Wales Trust.

Mrs Pepler said: "I am delighted to have been appointed as a non-executive director with the hospital and look forward to making a contribution to the future of such an iconic organisation."

Warning after dogs disappear

POLICE are warning farmers to be on their guard after two sheep dogs went missing from farms in Shropshire.

The animals went missing from two separate farms in West Felton, near Oswestry, and Pulverbatch, near Shrewsbury on Monday.

Police suspect the dogs may have been stolen and are warning farmers to be vigilant. Contact police on 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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NEWS

Kindness of young is to be rewarded

THE Oswestry Chronicle is teaming up with Borderland Rotary Club to reward youngsters for acts of kindness in Oswestry.

Primary school children in Oswestry will be commended for acts such as caring for a sibling, acting on their own initiative for the good of others or doing something which benefits their school.

The Rotary Stars programme was launched this week and Mike Lade, co-ordinator of the programme, said Rotarians believed it was important to make sure good work by young people got the praise it deserved.

Invitations have been sent out to schools asking them to write to the Rotary club by mid-March to explain why they are nominating a child for the award and Chronicle staff and the Rotary Club members will judge the entries.

Each child nominated will receive a book token and a certificate, presented to the child at a school assembly.

Mr Lade said: "Borderland Rotary Club hope to make this an annual award and even expand the programme to older pupils. There are a lot of young people out there doing great work but it's only the 'bad' youth that get the publicity. "The value of the prize isn't what is important, it's the recognition."

Discussion over street market

THE future of Welshpool's street market was being discussed by Welshpool Town Council last night.

The one-way review has recommended it be moved off Broad Street.

The report suggested the market is moved to the back road car park.

This is where it was previously located.

Energy firm presses on with windfarm bid

ENERGY giants Scottish Power will press ahead with plans for a controversial £64 million windfarm in the shadow of a beauty spot.

The firm says it has reduced the scale of the project at Dyfnant Forest, near Lake Vyrnwy which it has been working on since 2008 and says it will stage a series of public information days next month to outline its

fresh plans. But Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies described the plans as 'disastrous' for the region and for its tourist industry.

Landscape

Glyn Davies said: "My view is that this windfarm proposal will be disastrous for the local landscape and the local tourist industry."

The firm says it is now looking for views on its new plans which would reduce the number of wind turbines from 35 to 32 and also reduce their height from 185 mtrs (607ft) to 145 mtrs (476ft).

Helen Peake, project manager at ScottishPower Renewables, said: "Dyfnant Forest has the potential to accommodate a windfarm that could make a significant

contribution to the carbon reduction targets of Wales and the UK."

The first public information day is at Banwy Community Centre on February 20 from 3pm until 7.30pm followed by other sessions at Dinas Mawddwy Village Hall on February 21, Llanfair Caereinion Public Institute on February 22 and Llanwddyn Community Centre on February 23.

Facebook page is launched after £10,000 raid at farm

MORE than 300 people have joined a group on social networking site Facebook to help trace thieves who stole a container of goods worth £10,000 from a farm in Mid Wales.

Deborah Gregory, from Llanerfyl, near Welshpool, set up the Stolen or Missing from Powys and Shropshire page after the container, which was storing items such as machinery, tools and oil, was stolen from her farm last weekend.

And since the site went live on Saturday 330 people have signed up in support.

Mrs Gregory said the shipping container had a sign saying 'On hire from Glyn O Evans' on the side and the number plate of the trailer it was on is either H10NDG or WN52 NWM.

by Andrew Morris

Gardens group to build toilets

AN allotments group in Shropshire will be given £2,500 to help it achieve its long held ambition to build a disabled toilet at its site.

The cash will be handed over to Oswestry Gatacre Allotments and Gardens Association by members of Oswestry Town Council, who agreed to provide funding on Monday.

It comes after the group secured £10,000 from the Big Lottery Fund's West Midlands Awards for All scheme and £2,500 from the town's local joint committee.

Pip Pritchard, chairman of the allotments group, said the two allotment gardens at the Gatacre site are rented by Lorne Street Day Opportunities Centre and Mencap in Oswestry, which both have disabled members. He said their time at the allotments is limited as there are currently no disabled toilets at the sites.

Mr Pritchard said: "It is great news - this means we can complete the project. All we were waiting for was the £2,500, we have the right money now and we can go ahead with the project."

She said: "Sometime between last Friday at 4pm and 3pm on Saturday someone has stolen our trailer with a blue shipping container on."

"If people are offered anything on the cheap then please let the police know as we really need to get this stuff back as the business will suffer. I have set up the Facebook group so other people too can report things missing immediately and we can all keep a look out."

Sledgehammers

She said some things missing include a petrol welder generator Honda engine, a hydraulics pipe crimping machine, a petrol disc cutter, three barrels of hydraulic oil, a barrel engine oil, various tools and other items.

"A Bosch drill, two grinders, a first aid kit, sheep hurdles, 10 bags of sheep feed, wheel chains and numerous sledgehammers were also inside," she said.

"Just a rough valuation to replace the items is more than £10,000 this will have a real detrimental impact on our business as the container was equipped as a site store for our forestry business."

She said: "The site is for people to post anything that has been lost or stolen, theft is on the increase and if we can locate something quick through this site well that is great. It is not a selling page."

Head shave for cancer appeal



Before - Stephen Powell. Stephen's hair is shaved off. After - Stephen's new look.

AN OSWESTRY businessman recently diagnosed with cancer has shaved his head to help raise cash for others.

Stephen Powell, 47, director of Halls Estate Agents in Oswestry, carried out the fundraiser on Tuesday.

He has set up the Stephen Powell Cancer Research Fund and Richard Lloyd, a senior partner at GHP Legal and Mary Croft of Crampton Pym Lewis Solicitors have agreed to be trustees.

All money raised will go towards the fund and they will continue to collect donations.

Mr Powell said: "I was diagnosed with cancer and I am starting a course of chemotherapy so I had my hair shaved off to

launch the Stephen Powell Cancer Research Fund.

"I have never shaved my head before. I thought I may as well get used to it."

He said although he has been diagnosed with cancer he wants to carry on at work for as long as he can.

"I thought let's do something positive about it," he said. "People are very supportive and have been very generous."

He said he would not benefit from the fundraiser but he hoped others would be able to. Anyone wanting to make a donation

can visit the office on Oswald Road. Any cheques or donations can be sent Care Of Halls in Oswald Road.

NEWS

in brief

Car window was smashed by man

A MAN smashed a car window with his fist in temper after a row with his girlfriend.

Ryan Griffiths swung a punch at a passing Mazda in Tesco car park in Welshpool at midnight on November 24, causing the driver side window to smash, sending glass over driver David Wright.

Griffiths, 21, of Croft Road, Welshpool, admitted a charge of criminal damage at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

Helen Trench, prosecuting, said Griffiths was in the car park after having a row with a girlfriend.

She said: "He was angry and swung out at a passing car at random, smashing the driver side window and sending glass over Mr Wright. He was arrested and said it was a moment of madness and offered to pay for the damage straight away."

Robert Hanratty, for Griffiths, said his client had shown great remorse.

He was fined £120 and ordered him to pay £85 costs, a £15 victim surcharge, £30 for the window and £50 to Mr Wright.

Teen fined £37 for shouting at police

A TEENAGER who shouted and swore at police during a row outside a town hall has been fined £37.

James Watkin, 19, of Oldford View, Welshpool, admitted using threatening words and behaviour on December 1 when he appeared at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday. He was ordered to pay £85 costs and a £20 victim surcharge. Helen Trench, prosecuting, said a group of men had congregated outside Welshpool Town Hall. Police intervened and Watkin began shouting and swearing at them so he was arrested.

Paul Inns, for Watkin, said his client was very apologetic

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NEWS

Councillors reject sensors to count market shoppers

COUNCILLORS have voted against buying special sensors costing more than £20,000 to monitor footfall in the indoor market hall in Oswestry.

Instead they will ask colleges in the area if they would be able to help out with collecting data to discover how many people visit traders.

Councillor Saffron Rainey suggested a footfall count should be made across the whole of the town instead of just Powis Market Hall on Bailey Head.

Oswestry's markets manager, David Clough, has been investigating devices available to monitor how many people go through the doors of the market hall in 12 months.

He wrote a report to councillors which said the systems varied, from a hand held counter costing £4, to a fully managed system that would cost £23,620 over five years.

It was thought the sensors would be put at each of the entrances to the market hall to monitor the number of shoppers over 12 months.

Monitor

But David Preston, town clerk, said: "Councillors decided not to purchase the footfall scheme due to cost but rather look at a local project involving local schools."

Councillor Rainey said the town council should work with Shropshire Council and the Chamber of Commerce to look at the footfall across the town centre.

"If you are going to monitor footfall you should monitor it throughout the town," he said. "Maybe we could have a system that looks to the whole of the town, collaborating with the council and the chamber of commerce, it is something worth pursuing."

He suggested areas looked at could, for example, include Festival Square, The Cross, Church Street and Salop Road.

The idea of a sensor was brought up at a committee meeting this week after an annual markets conference, called NABMA, which was held in Harecastle.

It was hoped the devices could help to discover which times were busier than others.

Mr Peter Cooke, prosecuting, said Roberts was in prison on remand for a case which has since been discontinued because of lack of evidence. He left a message on his daughter's phone asking her to tell her mother she needed to change evidence given to the police in the case.

Miss Jane Sarginson, said Roberts thought the statement had been given by his ex-wife out of spite and there had been no threats or inducements in the phone call.

Andrew Roberts, 43, of Llwyn Road, Oswestry, was sentenced to a community order for 12 months with 125 hours unpaid work at Shrewsbury Crown Court. He was also ordered to pay £425 costs.

Mr Peter Cooke, prosecuting, said Roberts was in prison on remand for a case which has since been discontinued because of lack of evidence. He left a message on his daughter's phone asking her to tell her mother she needed to change evidence given to the police in the case.

Miss Jane Sarginson, said Roberts thought the statement had been given by his ex-wife out of spite and there had been no threats or inducements in the phone call.

It was hoped the devices could help to discover which times were busier than others.

Mosaics on display at centre



KAREN Tringle from Oswestry Visitor & Exhibition Centre with work from mosaic artist Tricia Jones from Llandrillo, which is on display until the end of the month.

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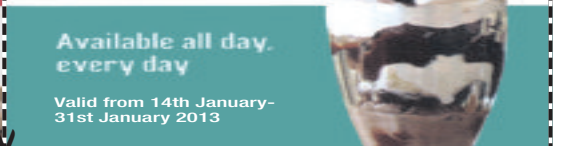
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NEWS

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Ramblers welcome to join in with walk

PEOPLE are being invited to join ramblers for a walk on the Shropshire/Mid Wales border on Sunday.

Members of the Oswestry branch of the Ramblers Association will set out from Rhosllanerchrugog for a gentle climb up Esclusham Mountain.

The outing will include some moorland walking along the five-and-a-half mile circular route.

Participants will meet at Oswestry's Central Car Park at 10am.

On January 10, more than 20 ramblers took part in a four mile walk from the church at Pool Quay.

They went along the canal towpath before crossing fields via a footpath to join Coppice Lane.

The party then took the footpaths at Coppice Farm to rejoin the canal towpath and return to the start.

On January 13 a group of 16 walkers took on a six-and-a-half mile route from the Craft Centre at Llangedwyn which included steep lanes and woodland paths.

Youth election

WELSHPOOL Town Council is seeking nominations from those aged 15 to 24 who wish to stand for election as a youth representative. The closing date is March 31. Call (01938) 553142.

James Bond to launch new digital cinema

OSWESTRY now has its very own digital cinema and James Bond will be on the screen this weekend.

Kinokulture has been keen to bring digital screenings to the 95-seat Attfield Theatre, in the Guildhall on Bailey Head, for many months.

Now the equipment has finally arrived and been installed, having come all the way from Canada.

Ruth Carter, Kinokulture's film programmer, said: "On January 19 at 7.30pm the cinema equipment will be used to screen the big box office hit Skyfall, starring Daniel Craig. "Tickets are selling fast and organisers are recommending people book in advance to avoid disappointment."

The January programme concludes with My Brother The Devil which has picked up awards at the London, Berlin and Sundance Film Festivals.

Mrs Carter said: "The installation of the new digital cinema system was made possible by a grant through Shropshire Council's Market Town Revitalisation Programme.

"We really hope to offer a broad range of films to our local communities and extend the cultural and night time offer within the town."

by Graham Breeze

Rower opens sports site at former school

DOUBLE Olympic gold medallist Tom James visited his former school to open its new sports facility.

The rower, who was part of the victorious men's coxless four rowing team at the London 2012 Olympic Games this summer, went to Packwood Haugh School at Ruyton-XI-Towns, near Oswestry, last Friday.

He talked to youngsters in at assembly where pupils watched video clips of his medal-winning Olympic races.

A spokesman at Packwood Haugh School said: "Afterwards everyone was very excited to have the chance to see the medals up close as he toured each of the form rooms to show the children."

Mr James also took part in a ribbon-cutting event for the school's sports pitches and unveiled a plaque to mark the occasion.

Low

"We aim to keep our ticket prices as low as possible and hope to see many more people enjoying films at our little cinema in The Attfield Theatre."

Later in the year the film-screening company hopes to show Quartet, directed by Dustin Hoffman and starring Billy Connolly and Sir Tom Courtney, Zero Dark Thirty, about the hunt for Osama Bin Laden, directed by Kathryn Bigelow, and The Life Of Pi, directed by Ang Lee.

The films will form part of the 2013 Borderlines Film Festival in March.

For ticket prices and further information about Kinokulture cinema visit www.kinokulture.org.uk.

Alternatively, call the box office on 0845 2500517.



Ian Garland and Ruth Carter in the Attfield Theatre, where they will be screening Skyfall on Saturday.

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NEWS

01691 668094

Hospital appoints hip unit surgeon



Dr Benjamin Burston

A NEW Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon has joined the staff at Oswestry's Orthopaedic Hospital.

Mr Benjamin Burston has been appointed to the hip and knee replacement unit at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Originally from Northumberland, Mr Burston initially taught maths and science in Cape Town, South Africa before heading to Medical School at the University of Bristol.

Mr Burston said: "I was attracted to work at Oswestry's orthopaedic hospital because of its phenomenal reputation both from a training perspective and as a specialist centre of excellence."

I am looking forward to being part of a large and very supportive arthroplasty unit and having the opportunity to provide a comprehensive and effective service for patients."

Jail term for vicious attack against man's ex-girlfriend

A CHIRK man who viciously attacked his former partner has been jailed.

Long distance lorry driver John Andrew Doyle, 46, was told that he had inflicted an appalling attack on a vulnerable young woman.

Doyle, of Longfield, Chirk, admitted assaulting Charlotte Hannah Watkins, occasioning her actual bodily harm, at her home in the village of Glyn Ceiriog on September 29 last year.

Mold Crown Court heard last Friday how he forced his way into her home and repeatedly punched and head-butted her.

The victim feared that he intended to kill her during her ordeal, the court heard.

Earlier that month he had assaulted her in the street - after tricking her to attend a local bank.

Doyle was jailed for 21 months and a five year restraining order was made under which he is not to approach his victim. He was also banned from entering the village of Glyn Ceiriog.

Judge Rhys Rowlands said that Doyle went to her home late at night, forced his way in, and attacked her.

"She ran upstairs crying, terrified at the prospect of seeing you again," the judge said. "This was a truly appalling attack on a young woman in her own home which left her with extremely unpleasant injuries, which are graphically shown in the photographs."

Miss Emmalyne Downing, prosecuting, told how the couple had been in a five-month relationship which the victim ended when she saw signs of his temper.

Mr Mark Connor, for Doyle, said that his client was a local man brought up in Chirk who ran his own garage business in Spain until he closed it because of the economic crisis.

He said the relationship with the victim had been a good one with many positive features. But the relationship became 'toxic' for a number of reasons, he told the court.

Date set for axe to fall on trees

A DATE has been set to axe some Cherry trees standing in a town square in Oswestry. Some of the Cherry trees have been facing the axe for the last two years after an application was sent to Shropshire Council requesting permission to lop down the trees in Festival Square in August 2010.

Protestors put up a fight to try and save their beloved trees but now officials say there are two which are 'definitely dead' and will be cut down by January 21.

Zoe Mortimer, engineering and contracts manager at Shropshire Council, said: "Some of the Cherry trees which have been facing the axe for the last two years will be removed from Oswestry Town Centre within a month."

Jools Payne, from PR firm The Jools Payne Partnership, launched the campaign called Save the Red Square Trees.

Last month she said she felt sad some of the trees had to go but realised they were in rapid decline.

Brian's poems raise funds



Brian Stone, from Oswestry, with his poem book 'My Journey Through Grief.'

WHEN Brian Stone lost his wife Christine to cancer his grief was almost unbearable.

Struggling to come to terms with his loss, Mr Stone, 63, from Oswestry found solace in writing poetry.

His book of poems - My Journey Through Grief - is now raising funds for Severn Hospice. And such has been the positive reaction, he is launching a business writing poetry for other people.

Mrs Stone died in 2011 aged 58.

"I struggled to come to terms with my broken heart. Writing these poems helped me to state my deep grief and I hope they help others too."

"Several are a general experience of grief and two are thanks for my counselling, which I recommend."

"After reading my poetry friends and family have asked me to write pieces for them and one friend challenged me to write a poem for a workmate who was leaving."

"He liked doughnuts and never made the tea. The poem I wrote went down really well so I decided to start a business writing poetry for all occasions."

Warning by police on theft of bikes

POLICE are warning people to keep bikes locked up after one was stolen from a premises on the Shropshire/Wales border.

The distinctive green Artic Kat quad bike was taken from Plas Gwyn, in Llansantffraid, between 12pm and 4pm on December 13 after it was left unsecured.

Constable Natalie Wareing said: "The bike is distinctive in that it has a windscreen and a small grey electric box on the side which measures about six inches by four inches."

"It's obviously quite valuable and I'd ask anyone with information on this theft to please contact us on 101."

Police are warning people to keep their bikes secure by following a 12-point plan.

This plan includes keeping the keys in a safe place, use ground anchors, bolts and chains to secure quads, keeping a master record of equipment including machinery serial numbers and installing alarms.

Draw winners

THE £1,000 prize in the Hope House Children's Hospice monthly draw went to Dolgarrog, Wales. The £100 winner was from Y Felinelli, £50 went to a supporter in Oswestry, Prestatyn had £50 and £25 winners. Another £25 went to Wrexham.

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NEWS

Rotarians welcome newest member

A SCHOOL governor who worked for more than 40 years within the healthcare system is the latest member of a Rotary club in Shropshire.

Marches School governor Mark Liquorish has become a member of the Rotary Club of Oswestry.

Club secretary David Griffiths, who sponsored Mr Liquorish, said: "Mark worked in healthcare for 43 years.

"For 30 of those years he was a nurse in the old Royal Salop Infirmary, the ENT hospital, also in Shrewsbury, and the new Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

"The last 13 years of his career were spent in information management where Mark was responsible for all the non-emergency hospital transport in Shropshire.

"Married to Anne, with whom he has a son and a daughter, Mark is also a long-serving governor of Marches School, where he chairs the staffing committee, a keen gardener and stamp collector."

Quiz to aid RNLI

A QUIZ will be held in Oswestry on February 21 to raise money for the RNLI charity. It will take place at the Wynnstay Hotel, starting at 7.30pm. For entry forms call (01691) 652241.

Anger as day's takings wiped

AN OSWESTRY fashion store lost a day's takings – because Severn Trent workers didn't bother filling in a deep hole they had dug right in front of the shop's front door.

The firm's engineers dug up the pavement outside the Rock Bottom store overnight on Wednesday to carry out a minor repair job but neglected to fill the hole back in.

Staff at the Church Street shop had to carefully step over the three-foot wide hole just to open up last Thursday but had no choice but to shut the business to the public because of safety concerns.

by Graham Breeze

Objections to flying club plan

A PLAN by a model aeroplane flying club to fly their aircraft near Oswestry throughout the year must be rejected because the noise from the machines is 'unbearable', objectors claimed.

Opponents to the plans by Oswestry and District Model Flying Club have urged councillors to throw out the group's planning application when the bid goes to a planning committee for a decision.

The last time the flying club applied for planning permission to fly throughout the year its bid was refused by the now defunct Oswestry Borough Council in 2006 over noise concerns.

Club members had to appeal to a Government planning inspector to win the right to keep to the skies.

That permission ran out after two years and since then the club members have been using a planning rule which allows them to fly their models from their base in a Maesbury farmer's field on 28 days in the year.

Although the hole was cordoned off by yellow safety barriers, no workmen were around when staff arrived at the store for work.

The hole in the pavement remained all morning and into the afternoon, forcing the shop to close for the day.

Severn Trent bosses apologised and later sent workers out later to complete the work. Store manager Chris Mackune said: "When I arrived all there was was a huge hole right in front of the front door.

"There were no workmen, no notices, no explanation.

"We have not received any notification.

"We couldn't allow the public in because they would have to somehow jump or step over the huge hole so we have lost a day's takings.

"Customers were just walking by because it was just too dangerous to come in."

Rock Bottom managing director Donna Fryer said she was furious not to be informed about the work beforehand.

A Severn Trent spokeswoman said: "A minor repair job was carried out overnight by our engineers.

"The site was supposed to be cleared and put back to its original state by 6am in the morning to allow the shop to open as usual.

"Unfortunately this has not happened, but we have arranged for this to be done as a matter of urgency. We have been in touch with the shop owners to apologise."



Chris Mackune, left, and Amanda Pierpoint who work at Rock Bottom in Oswestry take look at the hole left by Severn Trent Water, which is right outside the shop in Church Street. Picture: Simon Williams.

NEWS in brief

Abba tribute act for good causes

AN ABBA tribute act will perform in Ellesmere to raise cash for local causes.

Sincerely Abba will appear at the Ellesmere Comrades Sports and Social club on February 16.

The show will start at 7.30pm and tickets are £12 each.

The event will help raise money for Ellesmere Community Nursing Home and Cancer Research UK, and in addition money from the draw on the evening will go to Ellesmere Bowling Club.

Tickets are available from Maxwells printers in Trimley Street and the Comrades club in Victoria Street.

Wine tasting at Walls restaurant

A WINE tasting evening will take place in Oswestry.

The Walls restaurant will be hosting the event with events-based group PurpleFish on February 1.

It will be held from 8pm to 10pm with owner and head chef Geoff Hughes.

Tickets cost £10, which includes a £5 voucher off a bottle of wine.

Hospice boost

SHROPSHIRE'S children's hospice is £114 better off thanks to a raffle organised by Coleg Powys vocational skills students. The cash has gone to Hope House Children's Hospice at Morda.

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Changes to pensions do not make me hopeful

SO we can all look forward to better pensions according to the Government – well I'm not holding my breath

Plans for a "simple" flat-rate state pension were imposed on us this week with promises that we will all be better off under this 'fairer' system. But the reality is that those joining the workforce now will be worse off than under current rules.

There are short-term gainers but longer-term losers from the policy.

Instead of a basic pension of £107 a week plus various means-tested top-ups, recipients will get £144 in today's money from 2017 at the earliest, which Government says is fairer for the self-employed and many others.

Figures suggested that at least half of all people reaching state pension age before 2050 were likely to have a better outcome, but by 2060, more than half would be worse

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

with Graham Breeze



off than if the current system continued, because they could not build up a state second pension.

After April 2017, people will also have to work longer, making 35 years' worth of National Insurance (NI) contributions, rather than the current 30, to qualify for the full pension.

The big concern is that many of today's youngsters can't afford to pump extra money into private pensions so face a pretty bleak future, financially.

The fault lies with successive Govern-

ments who failed to recognise the obvious. People living longer means more people and more people means a bigger drain on the pension pot.

Guess who will finish up paying – yes you and me!

WHAT really wound me up this week was a revealing TV documentary about the cost to the National Health of correcting boded cosmetic surgery.

Why should the taxpayer have to cough-up to fund operations that were carried out privately to 'improve' the appearance of a variety of women's body parts – and I was shocked at the parts we are talking about.

While there is a chronic shortage of nurses on hospital wards and lengthening waiting lists because of financial cutbacks, how can cash be allocated to re-shape cheeks, tummies, breasts and other bits that

have been privately nipped, tucked and pumped-up in the name of beauty?

A NEW team is to be set up to shape the future of Oswestry's town centre.

A public meeting will be held later this month in a bid to find members for the town team and to ask local people what they think the priorities should be.

The town has received a funding windfall of £10,000 to use in promoting and improving the centre, along with access to a range of expert support.

This is a great opportunity for Oswestry and the public meeting is the ideal opportunity for those with ideas to step up to the plate.

It's no good sitting back and firing off criticisms at a later date.

Let's hope everyone with a view turns up on January 29.

Redundancy spurs Phil to start photography venture

by Andy Richardson

ILL fortune inspired Oswestry photographer Phil Barrett to pursue a life behind the lens.

The multi-award-nominated cameraman took up photography ten years ago, after the death of his father, Clive, from cancer.

For many years, Phil pursued it as a hobby while in a full-time job as an illustrator and designer at a greetings card company.

However, further ill fortune persuaded him to take up photography full-time. When the company he worked for, Gibsons Greetings, made workers redundant, Phil decided to pursue his dream.

"It was 2009," he says. "I think we heard about it on Friday 13th in the February, then we got redundancy notices on Friday 13th in March. It was a pretty tough time." Phil suffered other heartbreak – losing his nephew and father-in-law – and decided to retrain.

"A lot of things went wrong at the same time and I decided to go back to university to do a degree in creative lens media at Glyndwr, in Wrexham. I did my degree in a year and got a first. I still keep my hand in with illustration; my old boss sends me work and asks me to design cards from time to time, but basically I'm too busy. My work as a photographer has really taken off."

While Phil studied, he gradually built his business, PB Artworks, with commissions, building an impressive portfolio of images.

"I kept my hand in with the illustration, but basically, I decided to go for it."

The gamble paid off and, within a short space of time, Phil found himself nominated for a number of awards. "There was a real flurry, just after I started my business," he says. "I was nominated for Wildlife Photographer of the Year and got through to the semi-finals, then I was the runner-up in the British Institute of Professional Photographer's annual awards. To be honest, after that, I stopped entering awards because I just got so busy, I no longer had time."



One of Phil Barrett's stunning images.



Ill fortune persuaded Phil to take up photography full time.

But Phil's move into photography can be traced back further than 2009. "I guess it really began in 2002, when I lost my dad, Clive. He died from lung cancer and it was a really difficult time. I had a lot of anger."

"The only way I had of dealing with that was getting out and getting some space. I'd go for long walks with my dog, Emmie, and I'd take my camera with me. I started doing landscape pictures and it grew from there."

"I loved the solitude. I loved just being out among nature. I found it very calming and very liberating. It all grew from there."

Fast forward to the present day and Phil is much in demand. He loves working in Shropshire, having been born in Oaken-

gates, Telford, before relocating to Ellesmere in 1976. He spends hours photographing local meres and other parts of north Shropshire, as well as Shrewsbury.

"I'm a lover of the light," he says. "Winter's not too bad. I can afford to be up at 7am to capture the sun coming up. But when it gets to summer, I need to be up by 4.30am to start work. I love it when the sun's coming up and the sky is golden, the colours of the countryside seem to be magnified then. Once the sun's out it gets too bright."

Phil's primary influence is not photography. "I don't look at much of it," he says. "I love art, I love the way artists like Rembrandt or Caravaggio managed to capture



Phil runs a business called PB Artworks.

images, that's what fires me up. It's all about colour and light.

"I love working out in the great wide open spaces. Shropshire is such a vast county and there's so much to see and photograph. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else. I feel very fortunate to do what I love for a living."

Later this year, Phil hopes to exhibit his works at county galleries. He's been in discussion with a number of owners and hopes to create an exhibition called 'Seasons'.

"I'd like to return to the same places and take pictures that show how the countryside changes through the year," he says.

"Nature is very beautiful and we have to make the most of it."

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Q: I work in a small hotel. After Christmas I was asked to go up a ladder to take down the festive decorations. The manager footed the ladder but left when called to the kitchen. The ladder slipped and I fell, breaking my ankle and dislocating my elbow which needed an operation on it. Although the hotel owners paid me when I was off work I am worried that I might have sustained permanent injury damage that could prevent me continuing to play badminton at county level. I have been told on-going physio will help but it is expensive. Can I claim compensation from my employer?

A: Your employers have a responsibility to ensure your safety at work and you should not have been left alone on the ladder. The manager's risk assessment, whether recorded or not, was that the ladder needed footed. The manager left and the system of work became unsafe. In particular the working at height regulations apply and your work should have been properly planned, supervised, and, as far as reasonably practicable, safe. You have grounds for claiming compensation for your injuries.

The long term effects of your injuries may mean a change in lifestyle if you have to give up competition badminton. To establish what the long term effects may be you will need professional expert opinion and costs relating to acquiring this should be added to your claim.

There are strict time limits regarding personal injury claims; you must claim within three years of the date you sustained the injury. It would, however, be advisable for you to sign up to a No-Win No-Fee scheme with a reputable local solicitor before the end of March, as a change to the law which comes into force this April will mean you getting less than 100% of any compensation awarded if you make a claim after that date.

Further information relating to this question is available from John Hulme, a Partner with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194, visit www.ghplegal.co.uk or attend one of our FREE legal diagnostic clinics every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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LETTERS

Plea for helpers with sale of daffs

I AM appealing for people to volunteer for Marie Curie Cancer Care's Great Daffodil Appeal, and help people with a terminal illness in Shropshire get the care they need.

The appeal takes place in February and March, and plans for collecting donations are already under way and we need help to make this year's campaign a success. We're looking for people who can give an hour of their time to hand out the charity's iconic daffodil pin in return for donations.

Marie Curie Nurses, like me, provide free care for terminally ill people in their own homes. Through my work I can see first hand what it means for people to be able to choose where to spend their final days, which is why the Great Daffodil Appeal is so important.

This year, I and thousands of other Marie Curie Nurses will be working to ensure that people can spend time with friends and family at home. Donating your time to collect for the Great Daffodil Appeal will help provide more free care to people with terminal cancer and other illnesses.

Call Marie Curie Cancer Care on 0845 601 3107 or visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil. Thank you for your support.

Jan, Marie Curie Nurse

It is unfair to single out single people

POLITICIANS of all parties, but particularly the Tories, refer with approval to "hard-working families".

More people in Britain live on their own than at any time since records were first kept. Many are employed and often work jolly hard.

A larger number of single parents are in jobs. Single people in employment generally pay more in taxes.

The phrase "hard-working families" is often a dig at the "something for nothing" brigade, unemployed scroungers living it up on £71 a week. The real "something for nothing" brigade are people living on dividends and inherited money.

Those who vilify the unemployed want to put £71 in their wallets on a Monday and see how long it lasts.

SIDNEY EVANS
Chirk

We must not abuse our bodies

WE are being bombarded about the dangers of obesity, and also how taking in too much salt and sugar is bad for our health, and especially for our heart. We seem to have developed the attitude in this country that we can treat our bodies any way we choose and it's up to the NHS to fix things when they go wrong.

It's time we stopped to think what an incredibly wonderful machine most of

us were born with. The normal heart is a brilliant, maintenance-free piece of engineering, pumping millions of litres of blood around the body for 70 or 80 years without stopping.

It's the pump that powers the thermostatically-controlled central heating system and is connected to 70,000 miles of blood vessels which carry energy and oxygen instantly to where it's needed.

Then think of the digestive system which can take a huge variety of material which we throw down our throats and converts it very efficiently into energy.

I could go on about the wonders of the brain and the nervous system or the miracle of conception and birth. We should remember we are amazing.

RON JONES
Oswestry



Oswestry cattle market is seen here in a postcard view loaned by regular contributor Nigel Walters of St Martins. It is undated, but it looks as if it might be around the 1950s or 1960s. As there is a Land Rover in the background, it obviously can't be from before 1948, which is when Land Rovers first came on the scene.

When will the wind idiocy be rumbled?

WHY is it that everything to do with wind technology is not what the wind industry claims it to be?

Indeed, a wind turbine is not a turbine, but simply a wind driven electrical generator (WDEG).

Prime Minister, David Cameron, was misguided enough to have one of these limited machines put on his chimney, and putting a large wind driven generator on a high tower with a propeller does not make it a turbine.

Another tongue-in-cheek term is 'wind farm' which is no more than a collection of wind driven generators. Charles Parsons, inventor of the steam turbine must be turning in his grave (pun intended).

The term 'wind turbine' is a clever marketing ploy to seduce the ignorant, a pretence that a costly, countryside disfiguring ineffective machine is more sophisticated and efficient than it actually is.

The public should recognise that landowners are more than happy to be seduced by the wind industry and its subsidies whilst you have to be content with ever increasing energy bills.

The industry has been successful in their marketing by conning not just the public but politicians, engineers and the media. I leave you to assess the full idiocy of the term 'wind farm'.

DAVE HASKELL

Boncatch

Plea for empty inkjet cartridges

MAY I through your newspaper appeal to all businesses and individuals to donate any empty inkjet cartridges they have to an appeal I am organising to raise funds for a mission in Nigeria.

I have found a company who will pay money for the cartridges in this country.

You can post or drop off any you have at my home, 90 Aston Way, Oswestry, any evening after 8pm.

MALCOLM HARDING
Oswestry

Pylons puzzler

THERE is a campaign against pylons to be built because of electricity output from windfarms. What about pylons which already exist?

ALLAN TUCKER
Oswestry

Car park closure is an issue

I WOULD like to know why the multi-storey car park in Shrewsbury cannot stay open later on Sundays.

For a great number of years my family and I have gone to the pantomime after Christmas.

Since Theatre Severn parking has been a problem we decided to go to the afternoon performance. Because some family members were working, it had to be on a Sunday. Then we found the multi-storey closes at 5pm.

Surely I am not the only one who cannot walk from Abbey Foregate?

The pantomime was excellent, by the way.

COLLEEN EDWARDS
Bachurch

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU

FAX

01952
254605

E-MAIL

letters@oswestry
chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

GM industry does not necessarily know best

Owen Paterson demonstrates a remarkable degree of arrogance ignoring the public and promoting the idea that the GM industry knows best. The sooner that Paterson and his ilk realise the UK needs to reduce its population not increase food production, the better.

As for his attempts to win over the farmers by praising their stance on badgers, this is pathetic and desperate.

Farmers see legislation has led to an explosion in the badger population and believe that a reduction in numbers will benefit both themselves and the remaining badgers. They are doing what they think that they need to do.

BARRY JONES
Churchstoke

Treatment of obese is too costly

IF NHS managers wish to make savings, how about telling the growing army of obese patients they are no longer a luxury the NHS can continue to afford?

I read somewhere that the number of people having type 2 diabetes which is linked to obesity is soaring and the cost to the NHS is unsustainable.

Meanwhile one in every nine hospital beds is occupied by smokers. Perhaps it's time to put another warning on cigarette packets: 'Pay for your self-inflicted illnesses'.

And finally leaflets in Boots reveal the millions of pounds in Wales are wasted on unused prescriptions.

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WELSHPOOL

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NEWS
in brief**Council opposes 20 bedsits plans**

WELSHPOOL Town Council has rejected plans to turn a factory unit into 20 bedsits because Henfaes Lane "must remain an employment centre".

Walker Sheppard has made an application to turn its facility on the industrial estate on the edge of town into residential use, but it has not been supported by the town council.

A spokesperson said: "The town council felt it was inappropriate for flats in that area as our policy is to retain employment facilities in the town, particularly down Henfaes Lane."

Shop expansion is given backing

PLANS to extend the size of the shop on the Welshpool forecourt for WR Davies Motors have been backed by the town council.

Planners supported resubmitted plans which will see the shop increase by up to 35 per cent. "It was felt that part of town deserves a bigger shop within walking distance of hundreds of houses," said a spokesman. It will now go before Powys County Council.

Tenants to meet

THE annual meeting of Welshpool's Oldford Tenants and Residents Committee is at Oldford School, in Oldford Lane, at 7pm on January 28.

AM's anger at plan for pylons

MONTGOMERYSHIRE AM Russell George has accused the Welsh Government of showing 'ignorance and apathy' towards Mid Wales communities in their battle against the building of pylons through the region.

Mr George says Assembly bosses should properly look at the alternatives to the pylon plan and also look again at their decision not to give Powys County Council more funding to meet the £2.8 million cost of a summer public inquiry into windfarm applications.

by Graham Breeze

Craft fairs to be held by council

WELSHPOOL Town Council is to stage a series of spring craft fairs.

Council chiefs say the events will build on the success of similar fairs held during spring last year.

The fairs will be held in the Corn Exchange in Broad Street on March 3, April 14 and May 26.

Open from 9am until 4pm, the fairs will provide the opportunity for independent local craft workers and artists to offer a wide range of arts and crafts for sale.

Town clerk Robert Robinson said: "With free admission for visitors, this also gives you a chance to purchase original and unique work directly from local artisans. Teas and coffees will also be available, creating a relaxed atmosphere for people to browse."

Anyone interested in taking a stall or running the tea stall is asked to contact the town clerk's office on 01938 553142 or email wtccouncil@btinternet.com

But Assembly bosses have hit back, claiming the AM is 'misleading' his constituents and he should be lobbying Parliament.

Mr George's attack comes after he obtained a document prepared for Renewable UK and passed to the Welsh Government, which details alternatives to controversial plans to put a power cable from Cefn Coch, near Llanfair Caereinion, to Lower Frankton near Oswestry.

The politician said these include other overhead and underground connection options and he said none of the alternatives appear to have been pursued or considered by the First Minister Carwyn Jones's office.

Mr George has also highlighted the First Minister's refusal to consider extra significant assistance for Powys County Council, which is currently meeting the cost of a public inquiry triggered by its refusal to grant planning permission to five large wind farm developments in Mid Wales.

He said: "The First Minister has shown ignorance and apathy towards the plans. We now know alternative solutions have been suggested and thousands of people will question why they have been ignored."

A Welsh Government spokesman said: "Russell George is kicking sand in the eyes of his constituents and people in Mid Wales, when it comes to pylons and wind farms. The Tory-led UK Government has responsibility for consents on major energy infrastructure - not the Welsh Government."

Rhyme sessions at library



RHYME-time sessions are being introduced at Welshpool Library from January 24, with the sessions at 10.30am every Thursday morning during term time. With a selection of children's books is library assistant Elunor Jones.

Centre is looking to host art showings

ARTISTS in Welshpool are being encouraged to make use of the town's tourist information centre to display their work.

Town clerk Robert Robinson said: "The tourist information centre in Welshpool is the only fully networked centre between Welshpool and Ceredigion."

"The centre, over the last four years, has been expanded to offer refreshments, holidays, National Express coach tickets, fishing licenses and local crafts as well as the usual tourist information centre services."

"The centre also has an area of display boards, fixed to the wall, which are available for exhibitions."

"So far, schools and community groups have held exhibitions of work and details of projects being carried out, whilst other organisations and charities have used it to promote events happening in the area."

"Local artisans have also used the space to display and publicise their work."

"The staff at the tourist information centre can be contacted on (01938) 552043 where they hold a diary and are able to take bookings for a minimum of two weeks at a time, although longer periods can be arranged, free of charge."

Mr Robinson urged anyone interested in making a booking to call the centre.

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WELSHPOOL

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Urgent appeal for more volunteer firefighters

Wildlife trust to run club



MONTGOMERYSHIRE Wildlife Trust is running an after-school wildlife club in Welshpool every Wednesday. For more information or to book a place contact Abi Crutcher on (01938) 555654 or e-mail abi@montwt.co.uk. Getting ready to display a poster at the library in Welshpool to publicise the club, was library assistant Louise Guidry. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

by Graham Breeze

AN urgent plea has gone out for people to come forward to be trained as retained firefighters in Welshpool and Montgomery.

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service says it has vacancies throughout the area, including the two towns.

The service is looking for people over 18 years of age, who are physically fit and able to pass a number of tests, including numeracy and literacy.

"You must be able to travel to a fire station within 10 minutes and be available for emergency calls a number of hours a week," said a spokesman for the fire service.

Demanding

"The role is certainly demanding, but in return we offer you the chance to make a real contribution to this vital service."

Volunteers will be given full training on a breathing apparatus course, road traffic collision training, first aid and specialist driver training.

They must also attend a weekly drill night at their respective fire station for two to three hours a week.

"Being an on-call firefighter is first and foremost about dealing with emergencies, but there is also a social role to the job, including attending community events and acting as an ambassador for the service," added the spokesman.

Firefighters receive an annual salary, including additional payments for attendance at emergencies, training events and community safety activities.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the vacancies should telephone 01267 242636.

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WELSHPOOL

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History of town's pantos is published

AN author from Welshpool has penned a book chronicling the history of pantomimes in the town – 41 years after they came to an end.

Alan Crowe has published 'Oh Yes It Is', which looks at productions by Welshpool Pantomime Society which took place between 1963 and 1972.

Mr Crowe has spent the past two years interviewing cast and production members and collecting memorabilia for the book, which is out now priced £9.95.

He said: "The book commemorates 41 years since the last production of a pantomime in Welshpool and as a keen collector of Welshpool nostalgia, I thought it was the perfect time to write the book, using memorabilia I have picked up over the years."

Copies can be obtained from Welshpool Tourist Information Centre, Number Fourteen (Celtic Company) Broad Street, the Flaunt It card and gift shop in Cumberland Place, Welshpool, or direct from the publishers www.dream-starbooks.com

Mr Crowe said he was now focussing on writing a book about Welshpool during the war years.

He urged anybody with photos or a story to tell to contact him on 07782 166342.

Rising stars lined up for next comedy club night

THREE up-and-coming stars of the comedy world will take to the stage in Welshpool next month.

Nik Coppin, Paul Ricketts and John Ryan will perform at The Royal Oak in Welshpool as part of its new comedy club night on February 2.

Sam Regan, who is organising the event, said he was looking forward to bringing live comedy back to the town.

He said: "The Official Comedy Club returns to the Royal Oak Hotel Welshpool on February 2 and I would love people to come and see how this fantastic venue turns into a stunning comedy club and laugh away those winter blues."

First class

"With three top comedians from the prestigious UK comedy circuit, you know you're in for a night of first class entertainment."

Host for the evening will be Nik Coppin who has performed on Channel 4 and around the world.

Mr Regan said: "As well as a regular on the UK comedy circuit and performing in many European countries such as France, Germany, Spain and Austria, he has also performed as far afield as New Zealand and all over Australia."

"His confident, affable and energetic style of com-

by Andrew Morris

edy is quick to build audience rapport, as he talks about subjects as wide-ranging as observations on human nature, his experiences in the Antipodes, his extensive knowledge of wildlife, current affairs and his mixed race upbringing in London.

"The opening comedian is Paul Ricketts whose distinctive skewed view of the world informs his black comedy. His intelligent humour focuses not only on sharp observations from life, but also racial, cultural and satirical subject, intermingled with strange tales of ordinary madness."

"The headline comic though is John Ryan, who uses his acerbic wit and seemingly encyclopaedic knowledge of the world around him to keep any audience on their toes."

Tickets are £15 including food or £10 just for the show and can be booked by calling (01938) 552217. The show starts at 7.30pm.

Arsonists destroy nature reserve bird hide

Abi Crutcher at the scene of the fire at Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust bird hide in Welshpool.

A BIRD hide at a nature reserve in Mid Wales has been burned to the ground by arsonists, leaving staff devastated.

Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust said its bird hide at Severn Farm, Welshpool, was completely gutted by fire on Sunday night.

The hide attracted birds such as swallows, lapwings, bullfinches and herons.

Abi Crutcher, education officer for

the trust, said she could not understand why anyone would target the hide.

She said: "Staff are devastated by this. We came in on Monday morning to be visited by the fire service who told us the wooden hide had been completely destroyed and the circumstances were suspicious. I can't get over why anybody would want to do this, it is just not on. People come from all around to sit

in it and watch the birds in a natural habitat and now it has been destroyed."

"Some birds call the reserve home all year round, while others visit at specific times of the year, either to breed and raise their young or to shelter from the winter weather."

"The only positive is that no birds were harmed in the fire."

Dyfed Powys Police said anyone with information should call 101.

NEWS

in brief

Society to hear modern art talk

THE first lecture of the year for the North Powys Decorative & Fine Art Society in Welshpool will be 'Everything you always wanted to know about modern art – but might have been afraid to ask'.

The speaker, Adrian Summer, has been lecturing to higher educational establishments since 1973. Currently he is arts development officer for Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The meeting will be held at The Royal Oak, Welshpool, on January 24 at 7.30pm. Non-members of the society are very welcome to attend and the suggested donation is £5.

Council wants a say on windfarms

WELSHPOOL Town Council has submitted its request to appear at the windfarm public inquiry to be held in June.

A statement of the council's objection has been prepared and a full submission put forward objecting to the schemes and giving reasons why.

The Youth Council has also sent in a form requesting permission to attend and speak at the inquiry.

Annual awards

NOMINATIONS are being sought for Welshpool Town Council's annual community awards. Nomination forms can be gained from the Town Clerk's Office on (01938) 553142.

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This scheme lets you pay for some or all of the improvements over time through your electricity bill. Repayments will be no more than what a typical household should save in energy costs.

And there's an opportunity to get cashback for energy-saving home improvements on a first come, first served basis.

The Green Deal Cashback Scheme rewards the first Green Deal customers. It is a first-come, first served offer where householders can claim cash back from Government on energy saving improvements like insulation, front doors, windows and boilers.

Packages could be worth over £1,000 – the more you do, the more you get and is available for households in England and Wales.

To qualify for the Cashback householders must:

- Have a Green Deal assessment carried out on the property.
- Get and agree quotes from a Green Deal provider (this could be directly with a national brand or through a local tradesperson linked with a provider).
- Apply for cashback voucher online or by phone. Your provider may be able to do this for you.
- Complete works within three months (six months for solid wall).

Householders can fund improvements through a Green Deal Plan, or



Insulation costs can be slashed with the Green-Deal.

pay in other ways, and get the cashback but they must use a Green Deal Provider to arrange the work. The more improvements a householder makes, the bigger the cashback.

Householders can only make one claim for the cashback, but it may cover a package of improvements recommended by the Green Deal assessment. The Government cashback is separate and additional to any similar offers that may be made by Green Deal providers.

Customers will receive a cashback payment once providers have confirmed work has been carried out and the Energy Performance Certificate has been updated.

The Government has guaranteed that £40m will be available. After this, cashback amounts may reduce. Up to £125m has been earmarked for the scheme as a whole.

Who is eligible?
The Cashback is open to any householder making energy saving improvements under the Green Deal. This includes owner-occupiers, those renting privately or in social housing. Landlords, both private and social, are also eligible.

Interested customers can apply online at www.gov.uk/greendeal cash back or contact the Energy Savings Advice Service on 0300 123 1234 for further information.

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NEWS

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Come and sing day planned at church

VOICES are being sought for a come and sing day in a church in Kinnerley.

The church, in Vicarage Lane, played host to a singing day last year and this year organisers are hoping for an even better turnout.

The event will be held in the parish church on February 9 and the work to be rehearsed is Dvorak's Mass in D.

One of those involved, Anthea Verney, said: "We are hoping for an even better turnout this year as the more singers, the better the sound."

David Leek, the organist of St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, will be the accompanist while Kathryn Burningham of Oxford University and St Chad's will conduct.

Anthea said: "You do not need to have sung the work before as it will be rehearsed during the day, from 10am."

"A working performance will start at 4pm so that singers can leave for home before dark."

Organisers say members of the public are welcome to go along for the 4pm performance. "We would suggest they make a donation, if they feel the performance is up to scratch."

The cost to register is £10 and scores for the work are available to hire on the day.

Hundreds have their say on town's future development

HUNDREDS of people have taken part in a survey being carried out in Oswestry to help map out its future.

Oswestry 2020 is a project to create a town plan which will show Oswestry community's top priorities on topics such as public and private sector investments, new facilities and services. This is to develop a community-led plan for the town – a blueprint which will help determine priorities for investment.

The deadline for residents' comments closed on January 7 and now it is expected that a draft plan will be created from the results by February.

by **Graham Breeze**

MP encouraged by rail link work

NORTH Shropshire MP Owen Paterson has said he is 'encouraged' by the progress being made in the battle to restore a direct rail link from Shropshire to London.

The MP, in a letter to Oswestry Town Council, says he hopes Virgin Trains will agree to start a county service to the capital.

Stations in the county, including Gobowen and Shrewsbury, did have a direct London service through the Wrexham Shropshire Marylebone Railway company. But that service came to an end in 2011.

Mr Paterson is leading calls for the link to be restored. In his letter, he said: "Following a private conversation that I had with the new secretary of state Patrick McLoughlin, I wrote to the minister responsible Simon Burns and to the secretary of state himself."

"I am delighted that he has asked Virgin Trains to look at starting a Shropshire service in 2013." Mr Paterson added: "We met again last week and I was very encouraged by the progress that has been made."

Around 826 people have taken part so far including schools, University of The Third Age, members of the rural community and the three emergency services.

Irene Evison is the project manager from Resources for Change, which is helping with the survey consultations and developments. She said: "In the web questionnaire we had 418 responses, which we were delighted with. But that is only part of the consultation. We were trying to reach out to residents in a variety of ways."

"We also did a number of street stalls trying to reach everybody who was out and about. We had 402 responses through that."

She said project workers were currently working with members of the ethnic community and was also looking to talk to more businesses and farmers.

Mrs Evison said: "On the whole we are pleased with the response."

"We will be doing an extensive analysis exercise through the rest of January. Then the partnership will be putting together a draft plan in February which will be consulted on."

Oswestry 2020 is being led by a community steering committee, with support from consultants.

It is estimated Oswestry 2020 could cost £16,500 for consultation, questionnaire writing and analysis work, £3,000 for the publicity and promotion and £16,500 to help with the writing of Oswestry 2020.

Firm's charity runs challenge



Lee Hitch, bottom, from Fix Auto, Oswestry, with his daughter Livia Hitch and workmates Dan Meredith and Darren Williams who are running 10km races in aid of Bobath in Cardiff. Picture: Laura Dufield.

TRAINING has started in earnest for seven employees of a long established Oswestry business who have signed up for a mighty charity drive to celebrate the firm's 40th anniversary.

The "magnificent seven" at Fix Auto will tackle six 10k fun runs in as many months in aid of the Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales.

The team – managing director Lee Hitch, husband and wife Neil and Sarah Andrews, Shane Price, Darren Williams, Dan Meredith and Spencer Bebbington first race will be in Cardiff on February 16.

Mr Hitch said: "My opposite number at Fix Auto Market Drayton threw the gauntlet down by challenging us to enter the Market Drayton 10k race."

He said they chose Bobath Children's Therapy Centre of Wales because of the care and help they provided his seven-year-old daughter, Livia, who suffers from a mild form of cerebral palsy.

You can donate at uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/fixautooswestry

Redwood planted in poet's memory

A HUGE redwood tree could soon tower above Oswestry after it was planted in memory of war poet Wilfred Owen.

The Wellingtonia was chosen as the first in an arboretum planted for the town green, as it was the poet's favourite tree.

Although it won't grow anywhere near as big as the giant redwoods in America, the specimen just two metres high, could still reach 20 to 30 metres into the sky.

It was planted next to the old railway station in Oswestry, by the Mayor of Oswestry Councillor Martin Bennett and town councillor Stephen Haworth.

It was donated by the Shropshire Council's Tree Team.

Shaun Burkey, part of the team, said: "According to Peter Owen, the nephew of Wilfred Owen, the Wellingtonia was Wilfred's favourite tree."

Wilfred Owen was born in Oswestry in 1893 and died in action in France on November 4 1918, just days before the end of the first world war.

Councillor Owen said: "Looking ahead to the centenary of the first world war it is right that we should claim Wilfred Owen for Oswestry and ensure that he is recognised in the town."

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John Gentle with his staff at Caxton Surgery.

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Now in 2013 The Pharmacy @ Caxton is continuing its efforts to provide a "personal touch" for the people of the Oswestry area.

It was launched in May 2011 as a joint venture between The Caxton Surgery and Willow Street Pharmacy in Oswestry.

John Gentle, the superintendent pharmacist, said the heart of its suc-

Advertisement feature

cess was the community and he was proud of the support from the public.

Mr Gentle, who runs the pharmacy next to The Caxton Surgery on Oswald Road, said: "We pride ourselves on our relationships with the public. When we launched the new venture we wanted to provide the best service possible for our customers."

"We feel we are more than just a dispensary and are keen to offer a wide range of services."

He said they offered a Medicines Use

Review (MUR) system which gives people the chance to learn exactly what medication they are on and why.

A New Medicine Service (NMS) gives patients a more thorough explanation about their new medication, while a free delivery service is available for those unable to travel to the pharmacy.

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NEWS

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Long wait for survey on traffic in town

THE results of a survey investigating traffic problems in Oswestry are set to be revealed in the next few weeks.

The survey is being held to look into the flow of traffic around residential areas of the town.

Councillor Martin Bennett, mayor of Oswestry, said town councillors had been 'anxiously' waiting for the results so they could start discussing issues such as the entrance and exit to the town's Central car park.

In 2011 residents called on Oswestry Town Council to rethink the way the car park was operated and asked for the layout of the car park to be reviewed.

In May 2011 councillors agreed the car park and the traffic flows in the area should be looked at. The survey started in May.

A spokesman for Shropshire Council said officers were putting together the results of the survey and expected them to be presented to councillors in Oswestry in the next few weeks for consideration.

Councillor Bennett said: "The traffic survey results have been a long time coming. I hope that indicates thoroughness."

"I am sure we will look forward to seeing what the survey is going to tell us."

Bypass protest plans being drawn up by campaigners

CAMPAIGNERS battling for a bypass around two villages are planning to hold a protest with banners in the spring.

The Llanymynech and Pant Bypass Action Group, which was formed in January last year, met this week to mark its first anniversary, during which members drew up plans to hold a protest in the two villages.

Mike Catt, chairman of the action group, said the protest would be held on a 'minor route' but would involve protesters waving banners.

He said the group did not want to hold a large-scale protest because members wanted to

avoid causing disruption or the need for police involvement.

He said: "When the weather breaks we will have it. It is going to be around the beginning of April."

"It is going to take a while to organise - I don't want it to be a half-hearted event. We will let people know exactly when it will happen and what will be happening."

Mr Catt said after the group's first 12 months the members were continuing with the ultimate aim of getting a road built to take traffic away from the A483, which travels through Pant and Llanymynech.

The group has set up an email account for people in the two villages to send pictures and video footage and provide information about any traffic-related incidents in the two villages.

The address is accidentsand incidents@hotmail.co.uk and information from it will be forwarded to North Shropshire MP Owen Farnsworth.

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies has also vowed to support the campaign, saying there was a huge concern about the safety of the road.

Councillor Dilys Gaskill, chairman of Pant and Llanymynech Parish Council, has spearheaded the longer campaign, and has called for road safety improvements for more than 10 years after a spate of collisions.

by Chrissy Symmons

Pupils' maths put to the test

BUDDING mathematicians at Ellesmere College took part in the latest Primary Maths Challenge which attracts schools from across the country.

More than 70,000 pupils from 1,875 schools took part in the challenge which is organised by The Mathematical Association.

College bosses say a number of pupils from Ellesmere's Lower School achieved excellent results in the tests that are aimed at the top 60 per cent of pupils in years five and six.

The tests allow pupils to take part in a national challenge which involves 20 multiple choice questions and five 'super' challenges at the end.

Elaine Phillips, key stage two academic co-ordinator, said: "I was really pleased with their endeavors and hold out great hope for their long term mathematical achievements."

"This is a great competition."

Panto stars help out hospice



Eric Smith (King Eric) and Brad Fitt (Dame Trot) with youngsters at the hospice.

THE cast of a record-breaking pantomime took time away from the stage to hand over more than £4,000 to Hope House Children's Hospice.

The cash was raised for the charity, based in Morda near Oswestry, over the festive season thanks to donations from audiences attending Jack and the Beanstalk at the Theatre Severn.

It was the second time a collection has been taken at the annual pantomime for the children's hospice. This year it was organised by Brad Fitt, who plays the colourful Dame in this year's production.

Last year the pantomime collected more than £3,000 for the charity and this year's collection has topped that record with actors writing a cheque for £4,563.

Mr Fitt visited the hospice last Friday with fellow cast members including BBC Radio Shropshire's Eric Smith who plays the king, Andrew Fettes, Adam Moss, Jo Parsons, Bleu Woodward and Laura Jane Mathewson.

Warning on impact of disease on farms

A SURVEY conducted by the Farmers' Union of Wales revealed a need to increase awareness of the potential impacts of Bovine Virus Diarrhoea (BVD) infection in Welsh cattle herds.

The questionnaire captured information about thousands of cattle from across Wales and demonstrated that almost half of the farmers surveyed had a farm health plan which included BVD.

"However, more needs to be done to raise awareness of the economic impacts and welfare issues caused by this virus," said FFW senior policy officer Dr Hazel Wright.

At the end of last year, a Wales BVD sub-group, including representatives from Welsh Government, Hybu Cig Cymru, BVA, DairyCo, Gelli Aur College, Menter a Busnes and the FFW, was established to further the work and met for the first time at the 2012 Royal Welsh Winter Fair.

Dr Wright said: "Infection with BVD can cause a number of health problems including reduced conception rates, protracted calving periods, increased abortion rates, stillbirths and deformed and weak calves."

"The economic losses of an uncontrolled BVD outbreak can therefore be substantial."



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1830	X-Tubes	Zumba	Step Revival	Zumba	Zumba*		
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NEWS

01691 668094

Probation overhaul welcomed by Salmon

MID Wales's new police commissioner has welcomed a proposed overhaul of the probation service.

Christopher Salmon said reoffending rates made it clear the current system was not working.

Meanwhile, Mid Wales MP Roger Williams called on justice chiefs to ensure the probation service continued to receive the necessary support for the "excellent work" it carries out in the area and in other rural constituencies.

Justice Secretary Chris Grayling said, under the plans, security firms and voluntary groups would manage probation on a "payment by results" basis.

Prisoners serving short sentences would also have to undertake compulsory rehabilitation for the first time.

Mr Salmon, police and crime commissioner for Dyfed-Powys, said: "I welcome any efforts to drive down reoffending rates to protect the public and provide taxpayers with value for money."

"According to the Ministry of Justice's figures almost half of all prison-leavers re-offend within 12 months."

"This figure is simply too high and suggests the current system isn't working."

"I support the opening up of this system to allow the best use of skills and experiences from all-comers."

Thriving firm's 15th year is its most successful to date

AN OSWESTRY supplier of industrial packaging materials and environmental management equipment to businesses throughout the world is celebrating after completing its 15th and most successful year of trading.

Oswestry-based Agritel Ltd was established by managing director John Duffus in 1997 following his experience in technical and commercial roles working for companies such as ICI and as a sales and marketing director for Irish Ropes.

by Graham Breeze

Top doctor lands medal

A CONSULTANT anaesthetist at Oswestry Orthopaedic has won an award for popularising the enhanced recovery programme in joint replacement surgery.

Dr JC John, a consultant anaesthetist at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Oswestry, was awarded the first President's Medal of the British Society of Orthopaedic Anaesthetists for his role in popularising the programme.

Dr John had been invited to give the President's lecture at the annual meeting of the society in Birmingham. At the end of the meeting he was awarded the medal. The work by Dr John means most patients now stay in hospital for only three days when undergoing hip or knee replacement, compared with five to six days three years ago.

Dr John said: "I was delighted to have our work in enhanced recovery for patients recognised at a national meeting."

Initially providing farms, farm contractors and agricultural merchants with baler twine, net wrap and stretch wrap, Agritel soon diversified into industrial packaging, waste compaction equipment and machinery. These now account for 90 per cent of the company's turnover, which in 2012 was up nearly 10 per cent on 2011. In 2004, Agritel attained quality management systems accreditation ISO 9001:2008.

In 2006, it introduced office supplies to the product range and launched its online shop www.agritelonline.co.uk

Changes

Reflecting on changes over the past 15 years and looking to the future, John Duffus said: "The foot and mouth epidemic of 2001 had a drastic effect on our sales and so, like other businesses connected to the agricultural sector at that time, we diversified to survive."

"However, the biggest change has been the advent of the internet and the effect it's had both on our business operations and how we reach potential new customers."

"Even though there are other businesses providing the same products as us, we are sure that our forward thinking, accreditations and experience, combined with the attention to detail and the aim to provide exceptional customer service, have resulted in 2012 being the best year yet for Agritel."

"We look forward to maintaining this success into 2013 and beyond."



The current Agritel team – John Duffus, MD, Claire Backshall, director, and John Heeley, warehouse and deliveries.

Appeal is made for unwanted presents

THE people of Oswestry are being urged to donate unwanted Christmas presents to help the elderly.

Age UK is urging people not to allow unwanted Christmas presents to gather in the back of the wardrobe but instead bring them along to its charity shop.

The town shop is in Bailey Street and its staff and volunteers accept all kinds of donations including clothes, electrical items, books, games and accessories.

Collections can be arranged in some areas.

Sandra Griffiths, shop manager at the Age UK shop in Oswestry, said: "By donating unwanted Christmas gifts to our shop people will be helping a great cause."

"The money raised through Age UK's shops goes to supporting the charity's vital work for older people, so we are urging everyone in the area to declutter their homes and make a real difference to an older person."

"We need quality stock and if you don't want it, we'll take it."

The money raised by Age UK's shops will help the charity to deliver hands-on local services such as lunch clubs and home safety checks, as well as its free advice line and campaigning work.



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Five-bedroom family home has delightful country views

An individually designed five-bedroom detached country home with delightful views is on the market with Richmond Harvey.

Culmington House, Sarnau, near Llanymynech, is for sale with a guide price of £450,000.

The property is set on a good-sized plot on a small development of similar executive style homes, and includes oil-fired central heating and double glazing.

The downstairs accommodation comprises a reception hall, cloakroom, spacious living room with fireplace and logburner, snug and separate dining room, both with patio doors to the garden, and good-sized study.

There is also a large kitchen/family room with high quality units, a Rangemaster cooker, central island/breakfast bar and integral appliances. An adjacent utility has a sink, units and plumbing for washing machine.

Upstairs are five double bedrooms, two ensuite, three further double bedrooms, and a family bathroom.

To the front is a double width driveway, double garage and neatly kept open plan garden.

The good-sized rear garden has lovely countryside views and includes paved patios and a lawn.

For further information contact Richmond Harvey on 01691 654222 or visit www.richmondharvey.com



Roomy rural retreat with an acre of land

On the market through Halls, Glanhafon Uchaf, at Penybontfawr, is a charming period family home of character in the picturesque Tanat Valley with a paddock and outbuildings.

With spacious accommodation and stunning views, the property is for sale at a guide price of £275,000.

It has oil central heating, double glazing, porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, inner hallway, playroom/store, wetroom/utility, sitting room, conservatory/kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom, detached barn, garage and land of around one acre.

For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsgb.com



Victorian cottage in pleasant village spot

Number 3 Daywell Cottages, Daywell, Gobowen, near Oswestry, is a well appointed two-bedroom Victorian country cottage just three miles from town.

The semi-detached property is for sale through JJ Dell & Co priced at £115,000 with no chain.

With solid fuel/electric central heating and double glazing, the accommodation comprises an entrance hall, lounge, with fireplace, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, car parking and a store shed.

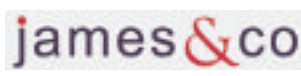
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PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK



Quality property with two acres of land and stable block

THE Old Brickyard Cottage, Weston Lullingfields is a spacious detached quality residence, in large gardens and paddock of about two acres, with a stable block. The property has recently been reduced to a guide price of around £449,950. It has a reception hall, through sitting room, dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and downstairs cloakroom. There is a master bedroom suite with dressing room and en-suite shower room, three further bedrooms and a luxury bathroom with spa bath and walk-in shower. It has a detached double garage with hobby/activity room over. It has a lovely open outlook over fields at the rear.

For information please contact Parry Lowarch Residential on 01743 343343 or see www.parrylowarch.co.uk



Three bedroom semi-detached house has been extended

Number 61 Llwyn Road, Oswestry is a unique and extended three bedroomed semi-detached family home. It is for sale through Woodhead Estates at £139,950. With some double glazing and gas central heating, it has an entrance hall, living room, family/sitting room, kitchen/dining room, master bedroom, two further bedrooms, bathroom, gardens and off road parking.

For more information please contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com



Lovely converted barn enjoys views over open farmland

The Coach House, Whittington is a three bedroomed barn conversion on the fringe of the village, with gardens and views over farmland. It is for sale through Samuel Wood at £199,950. It has an entrance hall, lounge, breakfast kitchen, downstairs shower room, study, three bedrooms, a bathroom and two parking spaces.

For more information please contact Samuel Wood on 01691 659951 or visit www.samuelwood.co.uk




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Halls



Hawthorn Close, St Martins

Price: £144,950

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A deceptively spacious two bedroom semi detached bungalow situated in a quiet cul-de-sac position in the most popular village of St Martins.

- 2 Bed Bungalow
- Quiet Cul De Sac
- Large Conservatory
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Parking & Gardens



Lythwell Cottage, West Felton

Price: £245,000

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A South facing detached cottage surrounded by open countryside situated down a quiet lane with potential for further adaption and alteration.

- 3 Bed Cottage
- 2 Ground Floor Receptions (Ripe For Conversion)
- Gardens
- Parking
- Edge Of Village Location



Upper Brook Street, Oswestry

Price: £124,950

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A three bedroom town house situated within easy walking distance to Oswestry town centre.

- 3 Bedroom
- Contemporary Style Kitchen
- Private & Enclosed Rear Garden
- Useful Garden Store
- Convenient To Town Centre



The Woodlands, Dolywern

Price: £239,950

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A four bedroom detached family home situated in a stunning location with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside and the Ceiriog Valley.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Central Heating
- Double Glazing



West Lea, Rhoswiell

Price: £89,950

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A two bedroom end of terrace cottage situated in a most convenient village location with excellent commuter links

- 2 Bed Cottage
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Requires Updating / Improvement
- Semi Rural Location
- Brick Built Store & W.C.
- Rear Garden



Queens Court, Oswestry

Price: £250,000

Contact Oswestry

NEW **NO CHAIN**

A five bedroom detached town house situated in a most sought after location near to Oswestry Town Centre

- 5 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Close To Town Centre



Denham Drive, Oswestry

Price: £133,000

Contact Oswestry

A three bedroom semi detached property situated in a quiet cul de sac location within walking distance to Oswestry town centre and within walking distance to open countryside and lovely walks.

- 3 Bedroom Semi
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Quiet Cul De Sac



Victoria Road, Oswestry

Price: Offers over £190,000

Contact Oswestry

A truly lovely town house situated in a most popular area of Oswestry Town offering characterful and spacious accommodation over three floors with parking and garden.

- 4 Bedroom (1 With Dressing Room)
- Over Three Floors
- Garden
- Parking
- Gas Central Heating



Pen-y-boncyn, Penybontfawr

Price: £299,950

Contact Oswestry

A detached country cottage situated in a truly idyllic rural location. Secluded but not isolated this family home is set in beautiful gardens extending to approx 3/4 of an acre.

- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Countryside Views
- Garage / Workshop
- Parking
- Dating Back To 1800s



Croeswylan Crescent, Oswestry

Price: £169,950

Contact Oswestry

A most well presented and extended 2/3 bedroom bungalow enjoying UPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating in a most sought after location overlooking the school playing field.

- 2/3 Bed Bungalow
- 2 Reception Rooms
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Ample Parking
- Sought After Location



Cherry Tree Drive, St Martins

Price: £108,000

Contact Oswestry

A two bedroom semi detached property situated in a sought after popular residential area with garage and parking.

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Private Rear Garden
- Garage & Parking



Sycamore Court, Maesbury Marsh

Price: £179,950

Contact Oswestry

A detached three bedroom bungalow situated in a small private cul de sac offering spacious accommodation warmed by oil fired central heating and benefiting from double glazing. Internal Inspection Recommended.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Family Bathroom
- Kitchen Diner
- Lounge With Log Burner
- Utility
- Garage & Ample Parking



OC3418

Mistletoe Cottage, Dudleston Heath

Price: £495,000

Contact Oswestry

A lovely detached cottage dating back to the 1800s with a beautiful interior and well maintained exterior.

- 4 Bedrooms.
- 3 Reception Rooms.
- 3 Bathrooms / Shower Rooms.
- 2.70 Acres Pastureland.
- Detached Stable Block.
- 3 Loose Boxes, Tack Room & Open Barn.



Rhos Cottage, Quinta

Price: £249,950

Contact Oswestry

This charming detached Victorian cottage is situated in a most pleasant rural location with lovely countryside walks on the doorstep and with excellent commuter links a short drive away

- 3 Bedroom
- Oil Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens Front, Side & Rear
- Garage Block With Kennel / Dog Run
- Parking



Cae Onan, Morda

Price: £234,950

Contact Oswestry

A most spacious detached family home offering spacious and well planned accommodation in a popular residential area.

- 5 Bedrooms (2 With En-Suites)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing



The Nurseries, Chirk

Price: £179,950

Contact Oswestry

A well appointed and immaculately presented detached family home offering spacious accommodation, with views to the hills and over the playing fields, situated in a quiet cul de sac location.

- Rec.Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Dining Room,
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility, 3 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Private Garden, Garage & Parking
- Viewing Essential



Smithy House, Penybont

Price: £250,000

Contact Oswestry

An opportunity to purchase a stone/brick built COTTAGE with a DETACHED ANNEXE. This property is well worthy of viewing to appreciate the character and charm throughout, gardens and annexe.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Parking
- Annexe With Open Plan Living
- Semi Rural Location



Wesley Cottage, Babbinswood

Price: £230,000

Contact Oswestry

This former Wesleyan Chapel is now a lovely family home offering two reception rooms, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom & shower room.

- 4 Bedroom
- Carport & Parking
- Private Cottage Gardens
- Hot Tub
- Oil Central Heating
- Double Glazing

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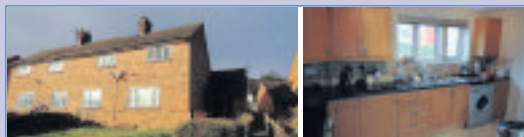
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01978 340000**NEW - NO CHAIN****Bronwyllfa
Llanymynech** **£129,995**

- A spacious Three bedroom Semi-Detached Property situated in an elevated position with outstanding views over the surrounding countryside
- Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Ground Floor Family Bathroom and 3 Bedrooms
- Externally the property has a large storage room adjoining the main house and good size gardens to the front and rear
- uPVC double glazing throughout and solid fuel central heating

**NEW****£110,000**

- A well located Retail Shop Premises situated in a prime location in the Town Centre
- A large Shop/Sales Area together with Rear Shop and Sales, Storeroom
- Two First Floor Rooms, WC and Kitchen, Four Second Floor Rooms
- Rear Yard and separate Rear Pedestrian access

**NEW****Willow Close
St Martins** **£115,000**

- A well appointed and spacious 2 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen /Breakfast Room, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Large driveway to the front providing ample parking
- Large garage/workshop and a large rear garden with patio
- uPVC double glazing and electric central heating throughout

**NEW PRICE****Ellesmere Road,
St Martins** **£249,995**

- Semi detached 3 bedroom family house
- Restored and extended by the current owners to a high specification
- Double Glazing throughout, Gas C/H
- Under floor heating to part of the ground floor
- Large garage block with storage room
- Well maintained gardens

**NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN****Middleton Road
Oswestry** **£132,500**

- A well positioned Detached Dormer Bungalow set in a popular area just along Middleton Road being convenient to all facilities in the town.
- Wide Entrance Hall, Sitting/Dining Room overlooking the rear garden, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Two Excellent Bedrooms one of which could be used as a Dining Room, a further First Floor Bedroom and Bathroom.
- Double Glazing, Gas fired Central Heating, PVC barges and soffit's, Single Garage with further adjoining space for a caravan etc, Garden to fore and delightful enclosed private rear garden with stocked shrubs, borders and pleasure lawn.

**NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN****Ambleside Road
Oswestry** **£132,500**

- A lovely Semi-Detached Modern Bungalow
- Entrance Hall with Cloaks, Sitting Room/Dining Room
- Kitchen with appliances, Central Hallway leading to 2 Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom. Gas C/H, Double glazing
- Car port, delightful fully enclosed garden to the rear
- PVC clad for easy maintenance.

**OPEN DAY 26th JANUARY****Roft Street
Oswestry** **£115,000**

- OPEN DAY 26th JANUARY 2013 - 10.00AM TO 4.00PM
- NOW ONLY 17 exceptional Contemporary Apartments in The Victoria Rooms Oswestry
- Now released. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms with prices starting from £115,000
- Lift and communal garden. Parking available

**APPROX 2 ACRES****Llansantffraid,
Nr Oswestry** **£310,000**

- A most impressive Detached House
- Set within approx 2 acres of gardens Paddock & woodland
- Sitting Room, Dining Room/Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- T.V. Room/Bedrm 5 Living Rm/Study, Utility Rm, 4 1st Floor Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom, En-Suite Shower Rm
- Part D/G & part Oil C/H, Dble garage with pony stable
- Views over fields alongside, parking



- A most comfortably appointed & spacious Detached House situated in a premier location
- Porch, Wide Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Study
- Snug, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Rear Lobby/Utility, 4 Bedrooms
- En-Suite shower & Family Bathroom
- Large Attic Room currently used for recreational purposes
- Gas C/H, double garage, patio & delightful gardens to rear with a southward facing aspect

**NO CHAIN****Coed-Y-Go
Oswestry** **£275,000**

- A most delightfully position Detached Residential Bungalow set within large gardens and grounds just on the edge of Morda towards Coed-y-Go being only one mile from Oswestry.
- The generous property includes which requires some modernisation, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Sun Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby/Utility together with Three Bedrooms and Shower Room.
- Oil fired Central Heating, garage, a Triple Loose Box with adjoining Garage, Small Paddock. Views over open fields to the rear.

**NO CHAIN****Llanforda Mead
Oswestry** **£275,000**

- A most impressive and spacious Detached Family Residence that has been extensively improved throughout by the present owners to present a delightful family home
- Entrance Porch, Wide Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, a Large Sitting Room, Separate Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room,
- Four Excellent Bedrooms, En-Suite Shower Room, Family Bathroom.
- Gas fired central heating, double glazing, delightful gardens and grounds together with a double garage



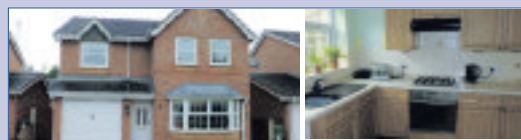
- A most comfortably appointed and generous Detached House
- Situated in a prime location next to Oswestry Cricket Club
- Set in good sized gardens and grounds
- Ent Hall, Sitting Rm with Bay, Dining Rm, Kitchen, Rear Lobby/Cloaks
- Three excellent Bedrooms, Family Bathroom. Gas C/H
- Garage, delightful private gardens to rear with a south facing aspect

**Porth-Y-Waen
Nr Oswestry** **£229,995**

- A spacious 4 Bedroom Detached Bungalow in the hamlet of Porth-Y-Waen
- Situated in a large elevated plot with excellent views over countryside to rear
- Ent Hall, Large Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room
- Master Bedroom with Shower Rm, 3 other Bedrooms & Family Bathrm
- Large garden at rear with raised patio area & Detached Workshop
- Large driveway with ample parking, D/G and Oil C/H

**Llanrhaeadr Ym
Nr Oswestry** **£275,000**

- A wonderfully positioned & spacious Detached House
- On the outskirts of the village of Llanrhaeadr
- Entrance Hall, Sitting Rm, Dining rm
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room/Utility, Cloaks
- 5 Double Bedrooms (1 En-Suite Bathroom)
- Study/Occasional Bedroom, Family Bathrm
- Oil C/H, car parking. Outstanding views

**Malthouse Close
Whittington** **£217,950**

- A most impressive Modern Detached Family Residence that presents a fine and spacious home set in a premier area of Whittington which is only a short distance from Oswestry.
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, a Large Sitting Room, Separate Dining Room,
- Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom,
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SHREWSBURY £400 pcm

SHACKLETON WAY
This double bedroom is conveniently situated within easy walking distance of the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. The room has shared access to a fully furnished lounge, dining room, conservatory and kitchen with appliances. Utility, cloakroom, bathroom with shower, ample parking and gardens. Rent includes all utility bills and Sky TV and communal cleaning. Available NOW

SHREWSBURY £475 pcm

TRAFALGAR PLACE
This well-appointed 1-bedroom second floor apartment within a popular modern development is ideally situated within easy walking distance of the town centre. Security intercom entry system, entrance hall, open plan living/dining room, kitchen with built-in oven & hob, fridge freezer & washer dryer, double bedroom with fitted wardrobes, bathroom with shower, balcony, electric heating and allocated parking. Available 1st February 2013

LLANMYNECH £495 pcm

FERNDAL CLOSE
This exceptionally well-appointed and tastefully decorated 2-bedroom end of terrace house, is situated within a quiet cul-de-sac position, approx 10 miles north west of Shrewsbury. Entrance hall, living room, kitchen with cooker, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating. The property benefits from easy to maintain gardens and ample off-street parking. Available 1st February 2013

SHREWSBURY £515 pcm

BELGRAVIA COURT
Well-appointed and contemporary 1-bedroom apartment. Security intercom entry system, entrance hall, open plan living room & kitchen with appliances, double bedroom with wardrobes, bathroom with shower and electric heating. Allocated parking & landscaped communal gardens. Available NOW

SHREWSBURY £560 pcm

ST MICHAELS STREET
This Well-appointed and spacious 2-bedroom 3-storey house, ideally located within walking distance of the town centre. Living room, newly fitted kitchen with cooker, study/utility, double bedroom and bathroom with shower to first floor and double bedroom to second floor, rear courtyard. The property benefits from GCH. Available NOW

8 Moreton Crescent, Belle Vue
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PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK



Well-presented bungalow overlooks school playing fields

Number 18 Croeswylan Crescent, Oswestry, is a smartly presented and extended two/three bedroom bungalow in a sought-after location overlooking school playing fields. The detached property is for sale through Halls with a guide price of £169,950 with no upward chain. With double glazing and gas central heating it has an entrance porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, bathroom and two bedrooms.

For further information please contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsgb.com



Five-bed period residence has wealth of original features

Number 53 Watergate Street, Ellesmere, is a five-bedroom period home with versatile accommodation, believed to date from the 17th century. With a wealth of features, including a beautiful oak staircase and exposed beams, it is for sale at £349,000. It has a reception hall, cloak area, inner hallway, utility, separate wc, breakfast kitchen, lounge, sun room, sitting room, three cellars, five bedrooms, two bathrooms, dressing room, walk-in airing cupboard, ample driveway parking, gardens and a detached garage/games room.

For further information please contact Samuel Wood on 01691 659951 or visit www.samuelwood.co.uk



Spacious detached family house convenient for town

Number 20 Plas Ffynnon Way, Oswestry, is a spacious detached home which is conveniently positioned for town. On sale at £229,950, it has a porch, entrance hall, large sitting room with bay, study, refitted kitchen/dining room, conservatory, utility/cloaks, four bedrooms (one ensuite), bathroom, double glazing, gas-fired central heating, parking for several cars and delightful gardens with a pool.

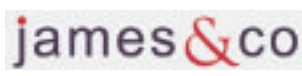
For more details please call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



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YOUR PICTURES



Welshpool Camera Club member Colin Rogers has been out and about with his camera and has kindly allowed us to reproduce four of his stunning pictures. Here is an image of Welshpool in the grips of a winter frost.



Winter takes a grip in Welshpool as this image of St Mary's Church shows.

YOUR PICTURES



An early morning encounter for photographer Colin Rogers in the grounds of Powis Castle at Welshpool.



Powis Castle overlooks a wintery scene at Welshpool.

Local Tradesmen



TIPS OF THE WEEK

PANDEL BATHROOMS AND TILES LTD

Pandel Bathrooms & Tiles Ltd is a local company who has been trading in Wellington Telford for over 20 years. This quality show room has been extended in the past few years to ensure the most recent and up to date Bathroom suites, shower enclosures, fitted furniture, vanity units, showers, tiles and accessories that are available on the bathroom market.

The showroom has a quality feel and set out in different layouts offering a wide range and choice of well-designed affordable products that will work in any bathroom space. Some of the brands that can be found in the showroom are Ideal Standard, Jacuzzi, VitrA, Mira, Vanity Hall, Roman and Kudos all backed with "waterlight guarantee" In today's climate it is important that our clients receive the best value for money ensuring the quality is not compromised we are here at Pandel to ensure this the case.

"It is our policy not to hard sell, It is important that we give practical, genuine help expert advice and designer tips. In short good old fashioned professional service" Explains Mark Richardson (Director)

We all enjoy having a wonderful collection to choose from but at Pandel Bathrooms we've made it our business to show the very best selection of Bathroom products and display them in our showroom complemented by our large range of tiles. So from a Tap to a makeover make Pandel Bathrooms your first choice.

Our January sale continues with full bathroom suites from only £599, over 20% off Wall and Floor Tiles and saving of up to £420 off Showers

For Free expert advice, design and home survey contact Mark on 01952 246333 or visit the showroom at 19 Bridge Road Wellington Telford Shropshire TF1 1DZ or view our website www.pandelbathrooms.co.uk



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3

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Salop Road, Oswestry, SY11 2NU.

Adran 48 o Ddeddf Cynllunio 2008 Rheoliad 4 o Reoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (Ceisiadau: Ffurflenni Rhagnodedig a Gweithdrefn) 2009.
Section 48, Planning Act 2008 Regulation 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009.

GORCHYMYN CYDSYNIAD DATBLYGU YN FFERM WYNT COEDWIG DYFNANT (GORCHYMYN FFERM WYNT COEDWIG DYFNANT)
HYSBYSIAD YN RHOI GWYBOD AM GAIS ARFAETHEDIG AM ORCHYMYN CYDSYNIAD DATBLYGU (GCD)
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER AT DYFNANT FOREST WINDFARM (DYFNANT FOREST WINDFARM ORDER)
NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (DCO)

Hysbysir trwy hyn bod ScottishPower Renewables UK Ltd (yr Ymgeisydd) o 2nd floor, New Building, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE yn bwriadu gwneud cais i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol o dan adran 37 o Ddeddf Cynllunio 2008 am Orchymyn Cydsyniad Datblygu (GCD).

Mae'r cais yn ymwneud ag adeiladu a gweithredu fferm wynt ar y tir i'w galw yn Fferm Wynt Coedwig Dyfnant (y Prosiect arfaethedig) a bydd yn cynnwys 32 o eneraduron tyrbin gwynt sydd â chapasiti o hyd at 116 megawatt. Gan fod y Prosiect arfaethedig yn cynnwys capasiti sy'n fwy na 50 megawatt, mae'n cael ei ddosbarthu fel Prosiect Seilwaith o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol, a awdurdodir drwy ddyfarnu GCD. Mae'r Prosiect arfaethedig wedi'i leoli yng Nghoedwig Dyfnant, tua phum cilometr i'r de o Lyn Efyrrwy ac i'r gogledd o Langadfan ym Mhowys, Cymru.

Ymhlith pethau eraill, bydd y GCD arfaethedig yn ceisio awdurdod ar gyfer y canlynol:

- 32 o dyrbinau gwynt sy'n hyd at 145 metr uchder i'w brig, a'u sylfeini
- Sgwaryn o lawr caled ar gyfer pob tyrbin gwynt
- Safle gweithredol
- Dau fast metereolegol cam gweithredol
- Llwybrau mynediad (newydd ac wedi'u huwchraddio) a chroesfannau dyffrffrydd
- Gwelliannau priffordd oddi ar y safle i hwylyso mynediad i'r fferm wynt
- Ceblau o dan y ddaciaer

- Tri safle adeiladu dros dro
- Un ar ddeg pŵll benthg dros dro

Mae'r Prosiect wedi cael ei ddosbarthu fel 'datblygiad Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol' at bwrpas Rheoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol) 2009 ac felly mae angen Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol ar gyfer y Prosiect. Bydd Datganiad Amgylcheddol yn cyd-fynd â'r cais am y GCD felly.

Bydd y dogfennau, y cynlluniau a'r mapiau sy'n dangos natur y Prosiect, ynghyd â chopiau o'r wybodaeth amgylcheddol ragarweiniol ar ffurf y Datganiad Amgylcheddol drafft a'r Crynodeb Annhechnegol, ar gael i'r cyhoedd. Gellir archwilio'r rhain am ddim rhwng 25 Ionawr 2013 a 15 Mawrth 2013 yn y lleoliadau canlynol ac yn ystod yr oriau a nodir isod.

Gellir cael copi papur o'r Crynodeb Annhechnegol, y ffurflenni adborth a chopi ar DVD o'r Datganiad Amgylcheddol drafft am ddim gan ddefnyddio'r manylion cyswllt isod. Dylid anfon unrhyw ymatebion i'r Prosiect arfaethedig, neu unrhyw safbwyntiau cysylltiedig a'r Prosiect, at yr Ymgeisydd drwy e-bost i'r cyfeiriad e-bost isod neu drwy'r post i'r cyfeiriad isod:

Fferm Wynt Coedwig Dyfnant
ScottishPower Renewables, 2nd Floor, New Building, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow G44 4BE
E-mail: info@dyfnantforestwindfarm.com
Tel: 0800 0930 504 *Mae galwadau o Linellau Tir y DU am ddim. Gall prisiau galwadau o ffonau symudol amrywio

Mae copïau papur o'r Datganiad Amgylcheddol drafft ar gael yn y lleoliadau adneuo i'w gweld, neu gellir eu prynu am £375 a gellir gwneud cais amdanynt gan ddefnyddio'r manylion cyswllt uchod.

Hefyd, ceir rhagor o fanylion am y Prosiect arfaethedig, gan gynnwys y mapiau, y cynlluniau, y Crynodeb Annhechnegol, yr wybodaeth amgylcheddol ragarweiniol a'r ffurflenni adborth y cyfeiriwyd atynt uchod, yng ngwefan yr Ymgeisydd
<http://www.dyfnantforestwindfarm.com> neu <http://www.coedwigdyfnant.com>

Yng nghyswllt unrhyw ymateb neu safbwynt mewn perthynas â'r gorchymyn cydsyniad datblygu arfaethedig MAEN RHAIID (i) i'r Ymgeisydd ei dderbyn ar neu cyn 15 Mawrth 2013 (ii) iddo fod yn ysgrifenedig (iii) datgan y sail ar gyfer yr ymateb neu'r safbwynt (iv) dynodi pwy sy'n ymateb neu'n cyflwyno safbwynt, a (v) nodi cyfeiriad ar gyfer anfon gohebiaeth berthnasol i'r ymateb neu'r safbwynt iddo.

Bydd yr ymatebion a'r safbwyntiau eraill yn cael eu cyhoeddi.

Bydd yr wybodaeth amgylcheddol ragarweiniol yn cael ei harddangos hefyd a bydd aelodau tîm y prosiect ar gael i ateb ymholiadau yn y digwyddiadau gwybodaeth i'r cyhoedd a gynhelir gan yr ymgeisydd yn y lleoliadau ac ar yr amseroedd a nodir.

DYDDIAU GWYBODAETH I'R CYHOEDD
Canolfan Gymunedol Banwy

Dydd Mercher 20fed Chwefror
3pm tan 7.30pm

Neuadd Bentreff Dinas Mawddwy

Dydd Iau 21ain Chwefror
3pm tan 7.30pm

Institiwt Cyhoeddus Llanfair Caereinion

Dydd Gwener 22ain Chwefror
3pm tan 7.30pm

Canolfan Gymunedol Llanwddyn

Dydd Sadwrn 23ain Chwefror
10am tan 2pm

LLEOLIADAU ADNEUO AR GYFER YR WYBODAETH AMGYLCHEDDOL RAGARWEINIOL

	Llyfrgell Llanfair Caereinion	Llyfrgell Llanfyllin	Llyfrgell y Trallwng	Llyfrgell Croesoswallt	Llyfrgell a Chanolfan y Celfyddydau u Wrecsam	Cyngor Sir Powys
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Dydd Llun	Ar Gau	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 7pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Dydd Mawrth	10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 5pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Dydd Mercher	Ar Gau	Ar Gau	9.30am – 5pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Dydd Iau	4pm – 7pm	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 1pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Dydd Gwener	2pm – 5pm	2pm – 7pm	09.30 – 4pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 4.30pm
Dydd Sadwrn	10am – 1pm	9.30 – 12.30pm	09.30 – 1pm	9am – 5pm	9am – 4pm	Ar Gau

Notice is hereby given that ScottishPower Renewables UK Ltd (the Applicant) of 2nd floor, New Building, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE proposes to apply to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

The application relates to the construction and operation of an onshore windfarm to be known as Dyfnant Forest Windfarm (the proposed Project) which will consist of 32 wind turbine generators with an installed capacity of up to 116 megawatts. As the proposed Project will have an installed capacity of over 50 megawatts, it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which is authorised by the grant of a DCO. The proposed Project is located within Dyfnant Forest, approximately five kilometres to the south of Lake Vyrnwy and to the north of Llangadfan in Powys, Wales.

The proposed DCO will amongst other things, seek authorisation for:

- 32 wind turbines of up to 145 metres to tip height and their foundations
- A crane hardstanding area for each wind turbine
- An operational compound
- Two operational phase meteorological masts
- Access tracks (both new and upgraded) and watercourse crossings
- Off-site highway improvements to facilitate access to the windfarm.

- Underground cabling
- Three temporary construction compounds
- Eleven temporary borrow pits

The Project is classed as 'EIA development' for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 and so an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Project is required. The application for the DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

The documents, plans and maps showing the nature of the Project together with copies of the preliminary environmental information in the form of the draft Environmental Statement and a Non-Technical Summary will be made available to the public. This may be inspected free of charge from 25 January 2013 until 15 March 2013 at the following location and during the hours set out below.

A hard copy of the Non Technical Summary, feedback forms and DVD copies of the draft Environmental Statement can be obtained free of charge using the contact details below. Any responses to or other representations in respect of the proposed Project should be sent to the Applicant by e-mail to the e-mail address below or by post to the address below:

Dyfnant Forest Windfarm
ScottishPower Renewables, 2nd Floor, New Building, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow G44 4BE

E-mail: info@dyfnantforestwindfarm.com
Tel: 0800 0930 504 *Calls from UK Landlines are free. Mobile calls may vary

Hard copies of the draft Environmental Statement are available at the deposit locations to view or can be purchased for £375 and can be requested from the contact details above.

Further details in relation to the proposed Project including the maps, plans, Non-Technical Summary, the preliminary environmental information and feedback forms referred to above can also be found on the Applicant's website
<http://www.dyfnantforestwindfarm.com> or <http://www.coedwigdyfnant.com>

Any response or representation in respect of the proposed development consent order MUST (i) be received by the Applicant on or before 15 March 2013 (ii) be made in writing, (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation and (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Responses and other representations will be made public.

The preliminary environmental information will also be on display and members of the project team will be available to answer queries at public information events being held by the applicant at the locations and times shown.

PUBLIC INFORMATION DAYS

Banwy Community Centre
Weds 20th February
3pm until 7.30pm

Dinas Mawddwy Village Hall
Thurs 21st February
3pm until 7.30pm

Llanfair Caereinion Public Institute
Fri 22nd February
3pm until 7.30pm

Llanwddyn Community Centre
Sat 23rd February
10am until 2pm

DEPOSIT LOCATIONS FOR PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

	Llanfair Caereinion Library	Llanfyllin Library	Welshpool Library	Oswestry Library	Wrexham Library and Arts Centre	Powys County Council
	The Institute, Llanfair Caereinion, Powys SY21 0RY	Youth & Community Centre, Council Buildings, Llanfyllin, Powys SY22 5DB	Brook Street, Welshpool SY21 7PH	Arthur St, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1JN	Rhosddu Rd, Wrexham LL11 1AU	Severn Road, Welshpool, Powys SY21 7AS
Monday	Closed	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 7pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Tuesday	10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 5pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Wednesday	Closed	Closed	9.30am – 5pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Thursday	4pm – 7pm	9.30am – 12.30pm, 1.30pm – 5pm	9.30am – 1pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Friday	2pm – 5pm	2pm – 7pm	09.30 – 4pm	9am – 6pm	9am – 7pm	9am – 4.30pm
Saturday	10am – 1pm	9.30 – 12.30pm	09.30 – 1pm	9am – 5pm	9am – 4pm	Closed

Family Announcements

View online
at www.shropshirestar.com/my-classified

Family Announcements

Deaths

DALTON
Haydn

Passed away peacefully at home on January 6, 2013, after a long illness, aged 81 years.

Funeral Service at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury, on Tuesday, January 22, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only but donations greatly accepted for Prostate Cancer UK and the Severn Hospice.

All inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS
Telephone 01691 653116.

HORNE
Wendy

Of Maesbury. Passed away unexpectedly at home on December 24, 2012. Much loved Mother to Andrew, Richard and Tim and foster mother to assorted dogs and other animals over the years.

Funeral Service at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury on Tuesday, January 29, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only. donations, if desired, to Greenfields Greyhound Rescue.

All inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS
Telephone 01691 653116.



WALKER

Beryl

Of Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury.

Peacefully on January 9, 2013, in her 100th year.

Service at St Alkmund's Church, Shrewsbury on Monday, February 4, 2013, at 11am, followed by Cremation.

Family flowers only please. Donations if wished to The Midlands Air Ambulance Charity for which purpose a collection box will be provided at the Church.

Inquiries please to

CLIVE PUGH
Funeral Director
95, Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6BD
Telephone: 01743 244644

SHROPSHIRE STAR
Family Announcements
Acceptance Times

We advise to allow as much time as possible when placing a notice, our print times can be brought forward in the event of bad weather conditions.

Acknowledgements

Lodge Lane

Bridgnorth

HILL

Stanley Edward

(Stan)

Mrs Margaret Hill, Kev, Knockor, Mandy, Ann-Marie and the Family of the late Mr Stan Hill wish to express their sincere thanks to all Relatives, Friends and Neighbours for the cards, letters and other kind messages of sympathy, love and support received at this very sad and most difficult time, for the attendance of so many of you at the Funeral Service and for your donations to The British Heart Foundation.

Special thanks to his Doctors for your care and kindness to him throughout his long illness, to The Shropshire Ambulance Service for your efforts on his behalf, to Peter and Claude for your very personal contributions to the Ceremony, to the Bearers for completing your duties with such dignity and care, to Lisa, Mario and the Team at The Parlors Hall Hotel for your hospitality and for looking after everyone so well afterwards, to Mandy and Ann-Marie for your beautiful floral tribute, to both Brerley's Florists and to The Flower Shop for the coffin tributes and to the Reverend John Ward and Organist Doctor John Turnock for leading such a comforting Ceremony.

Thank you all.

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NEWS

01691 668094

School is working close to capacity

A SCHOOL in Ellesmere which is operating close to capacity could be expanded, it has been revealed.

Additional classrooms will be created at Ellesmere Primary School if proposals to boost the pupil roll are given the go ahead, Shropshire Council bosses say.

And chiefs are also monitoring pupil numbers at Lakelands School where one year group is currently full.

The issues were discussed at Ellesmere Town Council meeting, where a letter it had received from Shropshire Council was read out.

The letter said a feasibility study would have to be carried out before extra classrooms were introduced at Ellesmere Primary.

Councillor Lynne Davies said the plans were a 'step in the right direction'.

Karen Bradshaw, head of learning and skills at Shropshire Council, said: "Due to demographic changes, Shropshire Council does have to review the number of school places available across Shropshire."

"We are looking into the possibility of providing additional classrooms at Ellesmere Primary School in the next few years due to increasing pupil numbers."

"At present only one year group is full at The Lakelands School. Pupil numbers will continue to be monitored."

Experts call for site tests if prayer centre bid approved

AN archaeological inspection should be carried out on a 19th century former church in Oswestry if a controversial bid to turn it into a Muslim prayer centre wins planning approval, experts have said.

Shropshire Council archaeology department officers have been consulted on the plans by Oswestry Muslim Society to convert the former Presbyterian Church in Oswald Road, Oswestry, into a prayer centre for the area's Muslim community.

They have said the development site is deemed to have 'low-moderate archaeological potential' and have recommended an archaeological inspection of the ground works be made a condition of any planning permission for the proposed development.

Members of Oswestry Muslim Society have already raised £70,000 for the project. The overall cost could be more than £250,000.

But the British National Party has urged the public to reject the plans by the Muslim group and has carried out a leafleting campaign in the town.

So far 39 people have written to Shropshire Council to object to the planning application while 35 have written in support of it.

The report by archaeology officers at Shirehall says: "The proposed development site lies within the historic

by Graham Breeze

core of Oswestry, as defined by the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey.

"It falls within a group of tenement plots which are believed to be of medieval date and the presumed line of the town's medieval defences crosses the south-eastern end of the site."

"Historic editions of the Ordnance Survey map indicate that in the later post-medieval period the site was occupied by gardens until the existing Presbyterian Church was built in 1888/9."

"The construction of the later building is likely to have resulted in some disturbance and truncation of earlier archaeological deposits."

The project, if it wins planning approval, would end a 10-year wait by members to find their own home.

Shropshire Council had hoped to determine the bid by January 11 but the application is now likely to be decided at a later date.



Malcolm Tillis with a selection of work for his very last exhibition.

Artist's last show will raise cash for hospice fund

A GLOBETROTTER 86-year-old artist is preparing to hang up his canvas as he stages his final exhibition in the county in memory of his late wife.

Malcolm Tillis, who lives in Castlefields in Shrewsbury, is staging his last-ever show at the Willow Gallery in Oswestry until February 23.

His final collection of distinctive abstract collages is being sold off, with half the proceeds due to be donated to Severn Hospice in memory of his wife, Kate Christie.

The pair met on the Italian island of Ischia in the 1950s, lived in Ibiza and travelled extensively through India, with both writing a number of books.

Mr Tillis, who was also a viola player for the Halle Orchestra in Manchester in the 1950s, moved to Shropshire with Kate in the mid-1980s when he began to further develop his interest in art.

He has staged a series of exhibitions in Shropshire since then, including at the Bear Steps Gallery and the Gateway in Shrewsbury.

Now at the age of 86 – and four years after his wife passed away following a battle against cancer – Mr Tillis is putting on his final show, which is entitled *Constructions and Deconstructions* and makes use of recycled materials.

For more information visit www.malcolmtillis.com

NEWS

in brief

Saturday Singing at memorial hall

SINGING enthusiasts are being invited to hit the high notes at monthly sessions in Oswestry.

Saturday Singing with Kate Allan will start on Saturday at the Memorial Hall in Smithfield Street. It will be open to everyone and includes songs from the UK and around the world.

All tunes are taught by ear and there is a free hot drink. The sessions will run from 11am to 1pm and will cost £5 a session.

For more information about the workshops e-mail allankate@hotmail.com

Naturalist in town to give wildlife talk

ANDREW Allott, author of the *Marches in the New Naturalist* series of books, gave a talk in Oswestry last night, Wednesday, at The Methodist Church Hall in Castle Street.

"Andrew Allott explores the landscape in all its marvellous diversity and reminds us what an interesting place we live in," said Sarah Gibson for Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The event was arranged by the Oswestry branch of Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

Bingo session

A CHARITY bingo session will be held in West Felton Village Hall to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The session will be held tomorrow at 7.30pm.



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Litfest line-up promises to be out of this world

by Graham Breeze

FROM A war horse to a toad, with a Dalek and an alien along the way – 2013 Oswestry Litfest promises to be out of this world.

The fourth Oswestry Festival of the Word will take place over 11 days from March 9-19 and features a glittering line up of internationally acclaimed writers, poets, performers... and aliens.

Topping and tailing a stimulating programme this year are former Children's Laureate and best-selling author, Michael Morpurgo, and the former Poet Laureate, Sir Andrew Motion. In between are a Whitbread Book of the Year winner, an appointment with a Dalek, an alien in underpants, Toad of Toad Hall and inspirational writers, journalists, poets and musicians.

Brought to Oswestry LitFest courtesy of Morris Cook Chartered Accountants, Mr. Morpurgo, whose book *War Horse* is one of the global publishing sensations of the 21st century, will read extracts from his best-seller and a selection of other titles including *Medal for Leroy* and *Where My Wellies Take Me* at The Marches School on Sunday 10th March at 3 pm.

Sir Andrew Motion will bring the Festival programme to a close on March 19 at 7.30pm with a performance of poetry alongside the Endellion String Quartet at Holy Trinity church as part of the Oswestry School Recital Series.

Booker long-listed author, Rachel Joyce, launched the 2013 Festival of the Word at The Walls restaurant on Wednesday.

The author and dramatist signed copies of the newly released paperback version of her 2012 best-selling debut novel, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, which features in



Biographer Fiona Joseph.

the Richard & Judy Book Club spring reading list. Other highlights include An Evening in Conversation with Kate Atkinson on March 22, also at The Walls.

The multi-award-winning novelist, whose new book *Life After Life* is published in March, will chat to the audience about her life and literary creations including the private detective, Jackson Brodie. Her first novel, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*, won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award.

Ms Atkinson received a MBE for services to literature in 2011. Writer, journalist and publisher, Alison Baverstock, will run a *How to Get Published and Creative Writing* Workshop on March 13 again at The Walls in the Cae Glas Room.



Kate Atkinson will chat about her life.

Ms Baverstock, a vastly experienced publisher, trainer and writer on all aspects of publishing, marketing and reading will share tips and insights that will inspire and enthuse any budding author.

Anti-capitalist

An intriguing glimpse into the extraordinary life of Cadbury heiress, Beatrice Cadbury, whose anti-capitalist beliefs led her to give away her entire fortune to her father Richard's Bournville factory workers in the early 1900s is offered by her biographer Fiona Joseph. Beatrice – The Cadbury Heiress Who Gave Away Her Fortune will be on at Oswestry Library on March 13. The event also features a chocolate tasting.

The Independent newspaper's northern



Daleks also feature in the festival.

football correspondent, Ian Herbert, an Oswestry lad who cut his teeth as a cub reporter in Oswestry, returns to his home town to talk of the state of the modern game at Oswestry Library on March 14.

Musical highlights at this year's festival include a performance by Dean Johnson of *Bullets and Daffodils*, which precedes the opening on March 8 at Oswestry Cricket Club. It is a tribute to Oswestry's most famous son and the inspiration behind the LitFest, the war poet Wilfred Owen.

The full 2013 Oswestry Festival of the Word programme can be viewed at www.oswestrylitfest.co.uk or on www.facebook.com/oswestrylitfest or follow the latest updates on Twitter @oswestrylitfest



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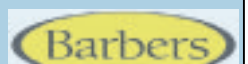
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NEWS

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Runner's hopes to inspire beginners

ONE of the runners who carried the Olympic torch through Shropshire is hoping to help others inspired by the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Ian Watkins, known as Doze, has launched structured running groups for beginners in Oswestry and Ellesmere this month.

Anyone can go along to the evening groups, free of charge, whether complete beginners or those who would like to improve their running.

Mr Watkins, a well known sportsman in Oswestry and a member of the Oswestry Olympians athletics and running club, carried the torch through the town in May.

On Friday he started a 10 week programme in Ellesmere for anyone who wants to start running.

Those interested should meet by the main car park in the town at 6.15pm for a 6.20pm start every week.

Regular Friday night runners in Ellesmere will also help with the programme and all are welcome.

A similar programme began in Oswestry on Monday at 6.30pm, a group supported by the Oswestry Olympians.

More information is available from 01691 656554 or email doze.watkins@gmail.com

Threat of street lights turn off in confusion over costs

STREET lights could be turned out on a housing estate in Weston Rhyn because of confusion over who should pay for them.

Members of Weston Rhyn Parish Council have threatened to switch off the lights on the Brookfield Close estate in the village, near Oswestry, after claiming they do not have the money to pay for lights on private estates.

Councillors have also claimed Shropshire Council has failed to respond to their requests for help to resolve who is responsible for the lights. They have said they will turn the lights off by February 11 unless they receive a formal response.

But officials at Shirehall have said they are not responsible for the street lights, although they have said they would happy to meet with parish councillors to discuss the issue.

Shropshire-based Furrows Holdings bought the estate from Shropshire Council in 2011 after tenants complained about damp, rotting windows and other problems. The group has transformed the 32 one and two bedroom maisonettes and the last houses are expected to go on the market in February.

Roger Dyke, parish clerk, said councillors had welcomed the new lease of life for the estate but were disappointed they had not had a reply from Shropshire Council.

He said the council wanted negotiations to start

by **Iain St John**

about who should cover the cost of the street lights.

Mr Dyke said: "The parish council does not provide lighting for private developments."

A spokesman for Shropshire Council said: "We can confirm we don't own the lights and have never owned the lights."

Assets

"However we would be happy to talk to the parish council about the issue."

The estate went under the hammer as part of a sell-off of various Shropshire Council-owned assets.

Millions of pounds of assets, from shops and industrial units to the housing estate and a caravan park were auctioned.

Shropshire Council moved residents out of the 1980s flats after complaints about their state two years ago.

Residents had complained about 'appalling' conditions.



Barbara Baker getting ready for the knitting classes at Whittington Castle.

Castle is purl of a venue for craft circle to meet up

A CASTLE which dates back to the 13th century has become the unlikely setting for a new knitting group.

Knitting enthusiasts will meet at Whittington Castle, near Oswestry, every Sunday from 10am until noon. It is the first time such a group has been set up at the castle and was inspired by a trader who came up with the idea at one of the regular craft events held at the venue.

And castle manager Sue Ellis has claimed the new club could provide an unusual route of helping people to lose weight following Christmas.

She said instead of munching on snacks in front of the television they could busy their hands with knitting needles instead.

One of the castle's volunteers knits baby clothes for a charity which sends the items to Africa, while it is hoped a tea cosy competition could also be run.

Ms Ellis said: "If anyone has a new year's resolution to lose weight they should take up knitting. If you are knitting you can't be using your hands to eat chocolate."

"It is a new group for people to learn to knit or bring along their own knitting projects. They can enjoy a drink and a chat with like minded enthusiasts. We will swap patterns, chat through projects and teach anyone who wants to start."

The group is for all ages and abilities and Ms Ellis has bought some small needles for youngsters who want to join in too.

For more information call (01691) 662500.

NEWS

in brief

Chance to enjoy jazz around town

JAZZ music will be played at venues in and around the town this month.

The Chicago Swing Jazz Katz will be playing at the Ironworks in Church Street, Oswestry, on Sunday during the afternoon. Entry will be £4 per ticket.

On January 30 there will be an open jam session with bassist Mick Holford and friends at the Golden Lion in Llandysilio from 8.30pm. Entry will be free.

A free weekly jazz session starts at The Griffin in Oswestry on Monday from 8.30pm. For more information email bazmatronics@hotmail.co.uk

Whist drive will aid cancer unit

A CHARITY whist drive will take place in a village to raise money for the bone cancer unit at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

The event will be held at the Senior Citizens Hall in Whittington, near Oswestry, on January 23. It will start at 7.30pm and costs £1.50, including light refreshments.

All money raised will go to the bone cancer unit at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Gobowen.

Evening of wine

A WINE tasting evening will take place in The Walls restaurant, Oswestry, on February 1. It will be held from 8pm to 10pm. Tickets cost £10.

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NEWS

First aid sessions launched in town

A FRESH drive to ensure Oswestry people know vital life-saving techniques has been launched in the town.

A four-hour emergency first aid session will be held at Oswestry Fire Station on February 2.

The event is being staged by Borderland Rotary Club, in partnership with the Oysters group, an organisation made up of volunteers from the town.

Mike Lade from Oysters said the session would offer vital knowledge and skills to parents and grandparents.

He said: "Would you know what to do in the event of an accident or medical emergency at home?"

"Do you have children, are you grandparents looking after grand children, do you look after elderly relatives?"

"Accidents and emergencies can happen anywhere, any time to anyone and you may be the only person available to give immediate help."

He said Oswestry's community responders will attend the session to pass on vital tips.

"Information can be found on the Borderland web site www.borderlandrotary.co.uk.

It is essential that people ring (01691) 650854 or e-mail michael.lade@btinternet.com to reserve a place on the course as spaces will be limited.

Milestone joy for Brownies

THE commitment of the leader of a Shropshire Brownies group has been recognised in the same year the group itself celebrated a special milestone.

Eleanor Davies, Brown Owl of the 1st Oswestry Brownies, was presented with a 20-year long service medal at the end of last year as a thank-you for all her work.

The award came as the group itself celebrated its 40-year anniversary. Mrs Davies said she was delighted to have received the medal and a certificate, which she was able to show off to her Brownies at the first meeting of the new year.

by Graham Breeze

Talks on plan for 21 homes

TALKS will be held in the next few weeks over plans to build 21 affordable houses in a village in Shropshire which developers say will ensure local people can stay in the area.

Sevenside Housing is proposing to build the homes in Morda, near Oswestry, and says priority will be given to local people.

The housing association will stage a consultation event on January 22 at Morda Village Hall to explain the plans.

Bosses said with housing prices in the small community hitting around £166,000 and the average full-time wage below the national average at around £400 before tax per week, there is a growing demand for affordable housing from residents.

The homes proposed are a mix of two and three bed houses with a small number of two bed bungalows. Helen Pugh, of Sevenside, said: "The aim of the event is to enable residents to ask questions, and also to express their interest in the proposed homes."

The event will run from 2pm to 7.30pm.

She said: "It is always nice to have your work recognised and I have always really enjoyed being involved in the group."

"I was a Brownie and Guide when I was a girl and when my daughter Angharad joined the Brownies I agreed to help out."

"I started off as a Snowy Owl and was that for three years. Then for the last 17 years I have been Brown Owl."

"I have seen lots of girls come and go. We have at least about 10 girls start every year so I am guessing but I would imagine I must have been Brown Owl to at least 250 girls, maybe more."

Preparation

"I think I got involved because Angharad was a Brownie and my son Robert was a Cub and Scout so somebody had to give up their time to look after and lead them, so it is only right that I give up a bit of time to look after other Brownies."

"You get a lot out of it although it is hard work. It is not just the regular Wednesday night meetings you have to do, it is all the preparation, coming up with ideas for the girls, arranging trips."

"Brownies has changed a lot over the years but it has always been about learning new skills and enjoying yourself."

Mrs Davies said her passion for the Brownie movement had been passed on to her daughter. She said: "Angharad is 29 now and is training to be a Guide leader in Llan-golen."



The First Oswestry Brownies are celebrating 40 years. Brown Owl Eleanor Davies, centre, also marks 20 years' service to the group.

NEWS

in brief

Evening of music and comedy date

AN EVENING of music and comedy will be taking place on the Shropshire/Wales border.

The event is being held at Llanymynech Village Hall on February 2 from 7.45pm. It is being held for charities including Breast Cancer Care.

During the night there will be performances from Melissa Collinson, Fortissimo, Matthew Tong and singing group Nostalgia. There will also be a comedy sketch.

Tickets cost £6 and can be bought at The Herbarium and Mile End Tourist Information on (01691) 830558 or on the door.

Energy advice on offer at free event

PEOPLE can get advice on reducing their energy bills at an event in Oswestry.

Shropshire Council and Shropshire Community Council are holding a winter warmer session at the Council Chamber on January 23, from 10am-2pm.

There will be information stands from organisations including Sustain which offers supported housing in north Shropshire, Homepoint, Credit Union and Qube.

Money raised

A BINGO night has raised hundreds of pounds towards the upkeep of West Felton Village Hall. It was held on December 12 and saw £394 raised.

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Winter 1963... that was cold!

by Toby Neal

WEATHER forecasters predicted a big freeze in Shropshire this week, but it's unlikely to come close to the scenes 50 years ago, when the county was in the grip of one of the worst winters on record.

Throughout the big freeze in January and February 1963, temperatures were about zero degrees both day and night. In Shrewsbury, there was skating on the frozen River Severn. It was not until February 8 that several weeks of snow and ice finally eased into a thaw.

During that time Mrs Dorothy Roberts was a student nurse at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital and took a number of pictures capturing the snowy scene there.

She was at that time Dorothy Franklin and had gone to the hospital at Gobowen at the age of 17 in January 1961 from her home in Rushden, Northamptonshire.

"It was very cold on the wards," she recalled. "We were dishing out breakfast and other meals while wearing our capes and gloves. We were told to take them off. And we had extra woolies underneath our uniforms."

Heaters

"That patients were not happy, as you can imagine. They formed a deputation to ask the management for heating. The patients had orthopaedic problems, fractured arms and legs, and a lot of them were physically fit. We didn't have medically sick patients. Some were mobile, and some were not, and the fitter ones who were mobile were the ones who got the petition up and went to see the management."

"Electric heaters were eventually provided, but I don't remember them as being particularly effective as the buildings were so flimsy."

"We spent most of our time filling hot water bottles for the patients and getting extra blankets for them. There was no heating on the ward. The sluice floor would freeze the moment it was mopped. I can remember everyone being relatively good humoured."



Full steam ahead – this picture was taken by Dorothy Franklin from the now-demolished nurses' home, and shows the little train which ran between Oswestry and Gobowen making its way across the snowy landscape in January 1963.



Snowy scene – a view towards Commonwealth and Baschurch Wards, which were the children's wards, during the hard winter of 50 years ago.

A few years earlier things would have been even worse as the hospital used to have wards open to the elements. This practice had ended shortly before the young Dorothy had arrived.

She added: "The hospital had had a fire (in 1948) which had travelled up the corridor in the roof and had demolished a lot of wards, which were rebuilt. So the bottom ones were solid brick wards, while the ones at the top were the really old ones which had been open and where

the patients had been treated with fresh air. They had only discovered antibiotics to treat TB just before I got there, and that was why they were able to close in the wards. They had closed them in around about 1959.

"My father had had to go into a similar orthopaedic hospital in Mansfield a few years before and he was on an open ward. He was told by the other patients how in the winter they would have snow on their beds."

At the time she was living in the nurses' home. She said: "We had heating there."

The weather emphasised the isolation of the site. Dorothy, who lives now in Wellington, Telford, recalled: "We were marooned. The orthopaedic is out on its own and we only had the little train to get us into Oswestry. It ran between Gobowen and Oswestry regularly and cost 6d (2.5p)." One of her pictures shows the little train chugging along, taken from the now-



Ice to see you – student nurse Angie Williams is holding an icicle over 2ft long – it's difficult to see – outside Denbigh Ward in January 1963, flanked by patient Bob Evans in his dressing gown, and Staff Nurse Heirs.



What a change – it's summer 1963 and the young Dorothy is sitting on the window sill of her room at the nurses' home

demolished nurses' home, and another shows a trio standing outside Denbigh Ward. One of them, fellow student nurse Angela Williams, is holding an icicle two feet long.

● What are your memories of the 1963 big freeze – or some of the other bad winters which have followed? Write to Star Mail, Shropshire Star, Ketley, Telford, TF1 5HU, or e-mail star-features@shropshirestar.co.uk

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FEATURES & NEWS

01691 668094

NEWS

in brief

Class teaches art of dressmaking

A DRESSMAKING class to help people make clothes at their own pace is running in Llanymynech.

The class is being held at Llanymynech Village Hall led by Sarah Thursfield, and has been running for five years, during which time participants made christening robes, animal costumes and Tudor dresses as well as more conventional clothes.

Classes are held on Wednesdays from 7.30pm to 9pm, and on Thursdays from 11am to 12.30pm.

The course costs £45 for eight classes.

For more details or to book a place call (01691) 839286 or visit www.sarahthursfield.com

Talk planned on keeping ferrets

A TALK about keeping ferrets will take place on the Shropshire/Powys border.

North Shropshire & Borders Smallholders Group will meet on January 23 with speaker Lee Kenyon at Llanyblodwell & Porthywaen Hall from 7.30pm. For more call (01691) 656516.

Gardeners' date

OSWESTRY Garden Society will begin 2013 with a talk on 'Renovation of the vegetable garden at Attingham Park' on Monday, January 21 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

Loyal little blue tits don't like to go far from home

WHEN I embark upon a new painting challenge, I like to have met the animal of which I am illustrating. It's relatively easy to make a quick sketch or take a snap shot of a large mammal lumbering toward you on a grassy savannah.

Even British deer can be studied for some time before they wander off. But garden birds are slightly different.

The small flitty and flighty finches and tits, present a real problem when trying to sketch them. All individuals of a species are different than each other and if possible, I like to take all my reference material from one animal.

However when there is a brief storm of long tailed tits on the feeder or an invasion of starlings on the lawn, picking out one single bird to sketch or even photograph, is tricky and in truth, one painting tends to be an amalgamation of several different birds.

However there is one exception and January is THE time to see it. Sometimes known as the Tom tit or the blue titmouse, the blue tit is a familiar garden visitor.

Its familiarity is due in part to the fact that the same bird will often appear and reappear in the same spot throughout its life. This is because blue tits rarely stray from the vicinity in which they were born (or, more correctly, hatched in).

Whereas people often coo over 'their particular hedgehog' which apparently is 'the same one which visits us every night', in truth animal character sightings such as these, however enjoyable, tend to be several different individuals patrolling round or passing through the area.

ON THE WILD SIDE

with Ben Waddams



But the blue tit is on the whole, very loyal.

Now is the best time to observe 'your' blue tit, because January is when they start looking for nesting opportunities. They may be feeding on your nuts and seeds, but they will also be considering whether or not that nest box nearby is the best place in the garden to bring up baby. And what with their charm and willingness to be the first at trying out any new feeder or nutty treat on the bird table, who wouldn't want these endearing and engagingly aerobically aviators in their garden?

Nesting

And not only are they busy scouring out potential nesting sites, but these charismatic birds are also thinking about mates. But how do they pick them?

Well, like all birds, blue tits can see ultra-violet light. This helps with food detection but it also seems to determine mate selection.

Whereas a doe deer may choose the stag with the largest antlers or an African elephant cow may opt for the bull with the biggest tusks, blue tit females prefer degrees of ultra-violet.

The front of their head glows brightly under UV light and the brighter the glow,



Winter Glow - by Ben Waddams.

the better chance the male has of getting his girl.

Outside the confines and nutritional luxuries of our gardens, blue tits do what all other birds of a similar feathery ilk do; they flock together.

Large gatherings of mixed species will scour the countryside, hoping that, if one finds a food source, the others can cash in at the same time. This is a time consuming, predator tempting and energy sapping

Ben's artwork can be seen at The Gallery tearooms in Princess Street, Shrewsbury.

Helpers plea for transport service

OSWESTRY'S Dial-A-Ride service has put out a call for more volunteers to join its team.

The service, operating out of Qube on Oswald Road, relies entirely on volunteer drivers and volunteer passenger escorts to run the service.

The Dial-a-ride service provides accessible transport to local residents in and around Oswestry.

The door-to-door service is aimed at the elderly, disabled, and rurally isolated in the Oswestry area assisting local residents with a general transport need.

"We have a great team of volunteers here and are looking for new volunteers to join us to ensure that we can keep the service running smoothly," said Michelle Kelsall, transport operations supervisor at Qube.

Bosses say they are looking for people who have some spare time, a willingness to help out and make a difference in their local community.

They added that all volunteers are fully trained and the service was an ideal way to make new friends, learn a new skill and be part of the community.

To find out more about becoming a volunteer for Dial-a-ride contact Qube Transport on (01691) 671571.

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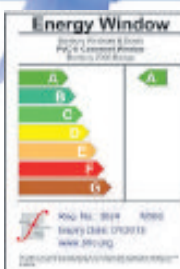
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THE ARTS

01691 668094

Artists getting chance to show off work at gallery

Members of the Oswestry U3A Creative Watercolour Group with their work up at Qube

ARTISTS who have been honing their skills have been invited to show off their work at a gallery in Oswestry.

Qube, in Oswald Road, is kicking off the new year by celebrating local art of all abilities in its new exhibition this month.

Creative Watercolour Group of University of the Third Age (U3A) and a local group called Paintable are displaying work as part of this exhibition. Both have been gathering to paint at Qube throughout 2012.

The exhibition will run until Janu-

by Graham Breeze

ary 28. Charlotte Jackson, arts co-ordinator at Qube, said: "Qube Groups Exhibition is a fantastic opportunity for local work to be on display and acts as an inspiration for local people to come in and try a new skill through the range of art courses we have on here."

Elaine Tully, course tutor of the Creative Watercolour Group for U3A, said: "The group of eleven artists have been meeting since September 2011.

"Most of the group started as beginners and their tutor is delighted and

proud of the progress they have all made. Each member has developed their own individual style."

Paintable sessions are held throughout the year in ten week blocks from 10am to noon on Monday mornings. Sessions are for people who'd like to try something a little bit different from conventional painting classes. They are for everybody, regardless of ability or experience.

On January 10 from 1pm to 3pm there will be an opportunity to meet the artists and tutors and chat about their work at Qube when tea and cakes will be on offer.

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GIG GUIDE

01691 668094

Live broadcast of a fun Victorian farce

GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts

THIS week may be thin on the music front but there's still plenty to keep you entertained.

The week kicks off with a live broadcast of Arthur Wing Pinero's Victorian farce - *The Magistrate* - at the Attfield Theatre, Oswestry tonight (Thursday). Starring Academy Award nominee John Lithgow (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Shrek*), the story follows the life of respectable magistrate Mr Posket who gets caught up in a series of scandals which almost cause his downfall.

Most of his troubles stem from his marriage to Agatha (Olivier Award-winner Nancy Carroll, *After the Dance*), who has convinced him that she and her son are five years younger than their actual ages.

As far as Posket is concerned his wife is 31 and his stepson Cis is 14, not that Cis acts much like a 14-year-old with his taste for smoking, gambling, alcohol and women. Agatha's deception slowly unravels setting off a series of hilarious mishaps for Mr Posket.

The play is directed by Olivier Award-winner Timothy Sheader who has been artistic director at Regent's Park Open Theatre since 2007 and has received critical acclaim for *Into the Woods* and *Crazy for You*.



There will be a live broadcast of *The Magistrate* in Oswestry.

To book tickets, call the kinokulture box office on 0845 2500517. Tickets cost £12 for adults and £10 for under 16s. Doors open at 6.45pm with the broadcast going live at 7pm.

Don't fear music fans, this week isn't totally devoid of gigs as the Royal Oak will have live music from the soulful Beth Prior on Friday. Gifted with an incredible singing voice, she'll be performing original material. The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry. For more information, call Oak Live on 01938 552217. Check out Beth Prior's music at www.myspace.com/bethprior

If you're looking for something a little different, there is currently an art exhibition on at the Oswestry Visitor and Exhibition Centre, Church Street.

There will be a wide range of different pieces on display from artists - Jonathan Brier, Tricia Jones, Raye Bower, Jack Stephen and Sarah Gibbard. The exhibition is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm. It's free entry and runs until January 26.

To round off the week there's the Open Mic Night at The Ironworks on January 22. Helmed by resident host Tom Stedman, it gives you the chance to take to the stage, whatever your talent. It starts at 9pm and is free entry.

The following night The Ironworks will be hosting another People's Vinyl Collective - a free event that gives you the chance to bring along five of your favourite vinyls and have a go at being a DJ, it kicks off at 9pm.

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NOSTALGIA & NEWS

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Motorist is banned for drink driving

A MAN from Oswestry has been banned from driving for 12 months and fined £200 after being caught leaving a pub car park over the limit.

Joshua Humphreys, aged 22, from Chapel Lane, Trefonnen, drove out of a pub car park and was instantly pulled over by police in Porthwywaen, Llynclys, on December 21.

Humphreys, an overhead power line worker, admitted a charge of drink driving at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

He told officers he had drunk one pint of beer and gave a reading of 42 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath.

The legal limit is 35 micrograms.

Helen Tench, prosecuting, said officers pulled him over as he left a pub car park and he gave a positive reading when breath tested.

Humphreys, representing himself, said: "It was a genuine mistake and bad judgement on my side."

"I am aware of how serious this is and the reason why there is a limit," he continued.

"I am ashamed to be here."

As well as the £200 fine magistrates also ordered Humphreys to pay £85 in costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

Dorothy's days at Orthopaedic

Mr Robert Roaf, who was made Professor Roaf in 1963.



This picture shows the nurses' home at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital which has since been demolished. Dorothy stayed there as a student nurse in 1961.



The hospital's sports day in 1961. Robert Roaf is starting the sisters' race. The caption in Dorothy's album says: "S/R Walton 5th from Lt." Notice the patients watching from their beds. "I think they're probably children in the main. I remember we wheeled them all out," she said.

In January 1961 shy teenager Dorothy Franklin left her home in Rushden, Northamptonshire, and started work as a student nurse at Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital near Oswestry. It was an experience which was to change her life. Here Mrs Dorothy Roberts – as she now is – tells the story...

I CAN remember distinctly wanting to become a physio.

I got a physio magazine and on the back were adverts for all the training places, the majority of which were in London. There was one for Oswestry. I sent off and got all their details, and decided I liked the look of Oswestry, so I came to Oswestry.

I was only 17 when I went there as a student nurse.

Initially I lived in the nurses' home. They have demolished it now. It was a huge building and I suppose I would have stayed there for about 18 months.

Then we were moved to what was called the maids' hostel, which was next door to the nurses' home. I don't know what they did with the maids. A lot of the people who lived there were actually disabled people who were employed by the hospital. They were former patients.

by Toby Neal

There was a house the hospital took over at Dudleston Heath. I think it was the vicarage and I lived there for a few months, and then we were told we had to find our own accommodation in Oswestry, which is what we did.

Learning

I remember when we were nursing we got paid and when we became physio students we lived on a grant. I had £5 a week of which I spent £2.10s – £2.50 in today's money – on my flat, so I had £2.50 to live on. I had a flat first in a house in Ferrers Road, Oswestry, and then I shared a flat in Salop Road.

I was a student nurse, and the student nurses absolutely ran the hospital. There was a Sister for each ward, and very few staff nurses. We were learning

on the job. We only had four weeks' holiday a year and I was desperately homesick. I was there six months before I got any time off. The first Christmas I was there was awful.

We were quite a small group and a lot of them were very social. They had all come from away although one of them had a grandparent in Oswestry who had a shop. I can't remember her name, but I can remember the name of the shop – it was Grant's. We did have a party at what was called the Fighting Cocks. We must have hired a room, and we drank out of jam jars.

I was a very shy sort of person and was dragged kicking and screaming into being social, which would never have happened if I hadn't gone there. Pretty well all the others had been to boarding school, but I hadn't. They were all so confident.

One of them came with a chauffeur,

and was driven in by chauffeur. She didn't stay very long. She didn't fit in.

Crewe Ward was the first ward I was on. The wards had all been closed up by the time I was there – there were no more wards with one side open to the elements. I think they closed them up in about 1959.

Friends

I remember Mr Robert Roaf, who was world famous for treating children with spinal deformities. He was made a Professor in 1963.

One of my friends was Angela Williams – Angie Williams. I don't know where she is now. She went to Canada, and then to Australia.

● Next week we will continue Dorothy's story with her experiences during the harsh 1963 winter, and the momentous night she was dragged along to an Oswestry jazz club.

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MARKETS

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January 14

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An entry of 54 Over Thirty Month old cattle sold to average 122ppkg for the cows, 139ppkg for the bulls and 160ppkg for the younger cows under 72 months of age. Cows topped at £1186.14 for a Limousin cow weighing 746kg from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands. A British Blue cow weighing 663kg from PG & AM Windsor Perce Farm achieved £1140.36. R D Thomas Neudd Lwyd sold two cows between the age of 48 months and 72 months to £1015.92 and £984.34. The under 48 month old cows sold to a top of £1224.36 for a British Blue from B L Langford & Co Rhos Fawr. D R Owen & Sons Sandilands receive the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day. If you require any further information regarding this section please contact the market on 01938 553438 or the Auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (12)
An entry of 12 fat heifers and steers sold to average 178ppkg for the steers and 203ppkg for the heifers. E R G Huxley & N Davies Rhosydd Gwynion sold three limousin heifers to 231ppkg 223ppkg and 217ppkg.

BL & CDL Williams Cyl also sold heifers to 227ppkg. E R G Huxley & N Davies Rhosydd Gwynion receive the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day. Weekly sale of Fat cattle every Monday to commence at approximately 12.30pm. More Fat Cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers. If you have require

any advise or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Mr Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME HOGGETS (3568)
An entry of 3568 Prime Hoggets, selling to the overall average of 136.7ppkg.

Super Lights (17.5kg to 25.4kg) (40) to 112ppkg from HA & ALL Humphreys & Son Brynnewest. Average of 109ppkg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (433) to 143ppkg from NG & GG Davies Trawsgelli. Others to 129ppkg from FM & SA Thomas & Son Frongoch. Average of 112ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (873) to 174ppkg from D G Jones Cefnhr Fawr. Others to 159ppkg from W K Davies Offas Way. Average of 133.6ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (1508) to 181ppkg from C J Davies & Son Waengwyn. Others to 179ppkg from CL & C Watkins Bank Farm. Average of 142ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (614) to 160ppkg from CL & C Watkins Bank Farm. Others to 144ppkg from D P Casewell Tanrhiw. Average of 131.9ppkg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (75) to 152ppkg from F & MJ Williams Cefnngwyl Fach. Others to 128ppkg from D P Casewell Tanrhiw. Average of 121ppkg.

CULL EWE (2507)
An entry of 2507 cull sheep on offer for sale today, sold to average £36.63 for the ewes and £61.58 for the rams. Top price of the day for the ewes was £115 per head from S J Smith Penybryn. Top price for the cull rams was £105 per head from F & M J Williams Cefnngwyl Fach. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the sale of fat lambs at approximately 12noon.

STORE LAMBS & STORE EWES

An entry of 320 store lambs averaging £41. Theave lambs achieving a top price of £47 from R T Watkins Coed y Deri. Mixed and clean lambs achieving a top price of £54 from G W Jones Henfryn.

Whether lambs achieving a top of £56 from Mrs E Jones & Son Penbontpren. Tup lambs achieving a top price of £42.50 from J Jones Llaur Penegoes. Mixed and tup lambs achieving a top price of £50.50 from G W Jones Henfryn.

IN LAMB EWES
A small entry of In lamb ewes achieving an average of £126. Mule Yearling ewes scanned with doubles and singles achieving £138 from N A Derwas Plas Trehelig. Yearling and two year old Texel ewes achieving £122 from S Yardley. Four year old Texel ewes achieving £90 from S Yardley.

Sale of store sheep to commence at 10.30am. Special entry received to date: 100 Full Mouth Welsh Mule in lamb to Charolais ram due 20th March, 5 In lamb Jacob ewes & 5 empty Jacob ewe lambs. More entries invited.

DAIRY COWS

The dairy trade was on fire on Monday with an excellent entry of 14 quality heifers selling to an average of £1923 with 8 over £2000. K S Jones & Sons Lane Farm sold a River Dance Sizzler daughter to a top price of £2140. Five other heifers from Phil, two sired by Sizzler, two by Dayton and one by Fenshall Silver averaged £1985. Two Woodmarsh Melbourne daughters from T G Phillips & Co Burgedin Farm Saranu sold for £2130 and £2070, whilst a Priddbwl Roxstar daughter from the same home sold £1970. R R Corfield Bronynant sold a Debbie Jo Drake heifer at £2120. At the same price was a Gornal heifer

from D W P Davies Four Crosses. A breakdown of the prices achieved where as follows: £2100 + 5 lots, £2000 - £2100 3 lots, £1800 - £2000 2 lots, £1700 - £1800 3 lots, less than £1700 1 lot.

CONVENTIONAL & ORGANIC STORE CATTLE

The first store cattle sale of 2013 kicked off in fine style with buyers from all part of the country in attendance together with the regulars, which made for a good trade especially on the quality lots. The hardest things sold were the plainer heifers which had a limited demand. Top prices of the day where as follows:

STORE STEERS (£ per head)

Limousin (x1) 570kg £1260 from M P B Ashton & Son Belandu.

Limousin (x2) 645kg £1180 from M P B Ashton & Son Belandu.

Limousin (x1) 495kg £1170 from J R Phillips & Son Bank Farm.

Charolais (x1) 497kg £1150 from D A Jones & Co Bronhauwen.

Charolais (x1) 480kg £1135 from E T James & R A Roberts Dolhywel.

STORE HEIFERS (£ per head)

Charolais (x1) 570kg £1165 from D A Jones & Co Bronhauwen.

Shorthorn (x1) 457kg £1140 from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

Charolais (x3) 556kg £1140 from R Gittins Henfaes.

Limousin (x1) 600kg £1120 from R Gittins Henfaes.

Limousin Organic (x2) 535kg £1120 from R N Lewis Tynyfach.

STORE STEERS (ppkg)

Charolais (x2) 435kg 259.8ppkg from D A Jones & Co Bronhauwen.

Limousin (x1) 370kg 239.8ppkg from D I Jones

Cwm.

Charolais (x1) 480kg 236.5ppkg from E T James & R A Roberts Dolhywel.

Limousin (x1) 495kg 236.4ppkg from J R Phillips Bank Farm.

Charolais (x2) 497kg 231.4ppkg from D A Jones & Co Bronhauwen.

STORE HEIFERS (ppkg)

British Blue Organic (x1) 385kg 258.4ppkg from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

British Blue Organic (x1) 355kg 245.1ppkg from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

Shorthorn Organic (x1) 475kg 240.0ppkg from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

British Blue Organic (x1) 345kg 226ppkg from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

Limousin Organic (x2) 440kg 225ppkg from I Evans & Son Hendreseifon.

FORTHCOMING SALES:

Monday 21st January, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Monday 28th January, Sale of Dairy Cows.

Tuesday 29th January, Sale of Store Cattle.

Monday 4th February, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Monday 11th February, Sale of Dairy Cows.

Tuesday 12th February, Sale of Organic, Weanling and Store Cattle.

Monday 18th February, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Monday 25th February, Sale of Dairy Cows.

Tuesday 26th February, February Store Cattle Fair.

Oswestry cattle auctions

January 9

FAT CATTLE: (71)

Young Bulls (20)

Predominately Holstein/Friesians overall average of 180p/kg. Top price of 214p for a Limousin from

N E & F Barratt. Top price overall £1194.75 for a Friesian.

Steers (10)

Mostly heavy Friesians averaging 184p/kg with a top price of 227p/kg for a Charolais from Neuddgch Farms. Top price overall £1353.60

Heifers (41)

A good show of heifers met an exceptionally fast trade to a top price of 248p/kg from Neuddgch Farms with 13 heifers making 235p/kg to 248p/kg. Heifers overall average 214p/kg from 156p/kg for a Holstein Friesian to 248p/kg for a British Blue cross. Top price heifer £1363.00 from J H & S E Roberts & Sons Rolly Farm.

More cattle required each week to satisfy the increasing demand.

FAT HOGGETTS: (2878)

A good seasonal entry of 2878 fat hoggets on 9th January 2013 which was a 30% increase on the same week in 2012. The trade on the whole was disappointing but unfortunately that is the trend this year. 444 light hoggs averaged 120.5p/kg or 142p/kg per head, peaking at 142p/kg or £42 for 29.5kg lambs from

H F Jones Tynyddwyl. 845 standard hoggs averaged 132.5p/kg peaking at 174p/kg or £60 for 34.5kg hoggs from D Morris Parkside. 1058 medium hoggs levelled at 142.5p/kg with M & S Jones Lower Forest Farm topping the section at 178p/kg with 41.5kg making £74.00. Top call of the day was £76.50 from A J Owen New House.

Superlights to 112p average 110.5p Lights to 142p average 120.5p, Standards to 174p average 132.5p, Mediums to 178p average 142.5p, Heavy's to 139p average 124p, Others to 140p average 120.5p. Overall average 136p.

The auctioneers would like to thank everyone for their continued support in 2013 and request on behalf of the buyers

that all dirty hoggets should be belly clipped to satisfy MHS standards. Finally should any vendors have top quality continental x Hoggs it is advisable to lot them either singles pairs or other small lots to gain substantial premiums.

FAT EWES: (620)

Ewes to £94.50 average £28.00, Rams to £99.50, average £62.00

Please Note : All sheep entering the Market must be tagged.

CALVES: (61)

Similar numbers selling to another very strong trade for continentals the very best Friesians small Friesians harder to sell. However Charolais Bulls topping the sale at £400 & £380 from Messrs Evans Halton Farm. British Blue Bulls to £395 from Messrs Hamer Penrhos Farm £370 from Messrs Powell Llwynmawr Mill £362 from Messrs Pryce Coedmawr £325 from Messrs Ellis Pentrevern £300 from Messrs Evans Dolgelynen. Limousin Bulls to £360 from Messrs Jones Lady Hill. British Blue Heifers to £330 from Messrs Pryce Coedmawr £275 from Messrs Ellis Pentrevern £242 from Messrs Lloyd Pentref. Limousin Heifers to £285 from Messrs Jones Lady Hill. Hereford Heifers to £224 & £218 from Messrs Lloyd Pentref Friesian Bulls to £200 from Messrs Evans Dolgelynen £180 from Messrs Ellis Pentrevern £102 from Messrs Hickson Kilhendre £92 from Messrs Lamine Kenwick Wood Farm

STORE CATTLE: (51)

A small entry in terms of numbers but plenty of quality on show for our first sale of 2013. Top price of the

day went to a Limousin x steer aged 25 months sold by M L Jones Llanantfrid for £1260 (221p/kg)

Steers averaged £878

(206p/kg) with heifers averaging £745 (189p/kg).

Notable prices included:

P L Harrison, Tregynon sold a pair of Limousin x steers aged 20 months for £1175 (237p/kg) with a further pair aged 18-19 months selling for £970 (228p/kg).

£750 (227p/kg) paid for a Limousin x steer aged 10 months sold by J W Ellis & Son, Dolanog.

£1125 (225p/kg) paid for a pair of Charolais x steers aged 20 months sold by J G Clay, Dudleston Heath.

£670 (206p/kg) paid for 4 Charolais x heifers aged 10 months sold by G Ellis, Llanfyllin.

More cattle could have been sold on this trade so contact the market office with enquiries for the next

catalogue sale which will be held on 30th January

U72 & CULL COWS: (72)

An excellent entry of 72 cattle met with an even faster trade than last week. The continental cattle sold to 209p/kg the better Friesians to 151p/kg and the plain Friesian to 124p/kg. Top price £1337.60

Cows

Limousin to 166p average 141.68p/kg

Belgian Blue to 129p average 108.11p/kg

Friesian to 151p average 107.08p/kg

Heifers

Charolais to 182p average 175.64p/kg

Limousin to 190p

Belgian Blue to 209p average 195.90p/kg

Friesian to 146p average 139.67p/kg

72 Cattle average 119.54p/kg

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 653547 so our data base can be updated many thanks.

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59 NISSAN NOTE DCI Pure Drive	£5995
57 MONDEO EDGE TDCI Silver	£4995
07 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 SPORT Silver	SOLD
06 FORD FOCUS ZETEC TDCI Blue	£5475
06 TOYOTA AVENTIS T3S Auto. 38,000 miles	£4995
06 Vauxhall Corsa SXI Plus 16V	£2695
06 SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4	£5325
56 PROTON SAVVY, Blue 35,000 Miles	£2750
55 MAZDA RX8 Black 39k	£3975
55 PEUGEOT 307 XSI 2.0 HDI Diesel, Bronze Met, Leather	£5350
56 VAUXHALL VECTRA Exclusive 1.8 Red Metallic	£3450
54 FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr. Silver	£3395
54 CORSA SXI Blue	£1875
54 MG TF Convertible Summer Fun, Yellow	£1995
54 VAUXHALL ASTRA CWB, Black	£2575
04 MGZT 1.8 TURBO Blue	SOLD
53 Peugeot 206 HDI SE Diesel, Blue	£1995
03 CITROEN C5 1.8 Blue, superb throughout	£2750
03 MINI COOPER Silver	£3995
03 VW GOLF 4 MOTION Leather	£3595
03 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO	£2495
06 Ford Focus Red, Choice of 2, low miles	£2195
52 FORD FIESTA FINES Silver	£1995
02 ROVER 25 IMPRESSION Silver, 46k	£1995
V JAGUAR XK8 1 Owner, Low Mileage, Silver, must be seen.	POA
X TRANSIT Diesel SWB	£2695
W BMW 530 SE Diesel, Leather, Auto.	£2495
S JAGUAR XJ 3.2 Auto. Gold Met, Leather, Extensive Service History	£2995
Commercials	
08 Peugeot Partner Diesel	£3695 +VAT
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56 Citroen Berlingo Diesel	£2695 +VAT
06 Ford Transit Connect Diesel	£3695 +VAT
06 Ford Transit Connect 55k	£2985 +VAT
04 Renault Kangoo	£1695 +VAT
53 Citroen Berlingo Diesel	£1695 +VAT
03 Peugeot Partner	£1795 +VAT
X Ford Transit Diesel, SWB	£2695 +VAT
Y Mitsubishi L200 Double Cab	£3000 +VAT

MOTORING

You're streets ahead with Fiat's new 500

IT'S small, funky and very different but Fiat's 500 goes from strength to strength with the arrival of the sporty and lavishly equipped new version, the 500 Street.

Fiat have targeted the sports-minded customer who wants all the style, economy and comfort of the popular Fiat 500 city car but with a striking new look.

The Street comes equipped with dark tinted windows, alloy wheels and satin chrome finished mouldings, handles and door mirrors.

DRIVE TIME
with Graham Breeze



Available in a choice of five colours: Bossa Nova White, Pasodoble Red, Crossover Black, Electroclash Grey or Matt Black the Street is powered by the 1.2-litre petrol, award-winning 0.9-litre TwinAir or the potent 1.3-litre MultiJet 2 diesel engine.

The car gets £1,800 worth of extra equipment including air conditioning, sports seats, 16in alloy wheels, Blue&Me infotainment, leather steering wheel with radio controls, and rear spoiler.

It comes as no surprise that the 500 is at its best in town thanks to its small dimensions and easy steering. The model on test was fun to drive but handling not the best and the ride a little on the jittery side.

Solid

The 500 seems a solid buying proposition though. It is cheaper to buy than its rivals and its cute looks add to its desirability, meaning solid residual values. Most of the plastics and fabrics used in the interior fit with the retro image of the 500, and it looks great and feels sturdy enough.

The 500 is far from a simple, nostalgic interpretation of Dante Giacosa's iconic 500 of 1957 even though the new car's chic styling does boast visual clues from the past.

Taking a quantum leap forward in terms of safety, technology, comfort and equipment for this segment, it represents a company blueprint for the future.

This latest development comes on the back of the launch of the Colour Therapy. Positioned between the highly popular 500 Pop

"It comes as no surprise that the 500 is at its best in town thanks to its small dimensions and easy steering"



The new Fiat is cheaper than its rivals and its style adds to desirability



The new Fiat 500 Street TwinAir, a city car with striking, sporty looks



Inside the Fiat 500 Street TwinAir

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MOTORING

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The award-winning Honda CR-V, prices start from £21,395 on the road

British-built Honda CR-V scoops magazine award

Honda's British-built CR-V has scooped the '4x4 of the year' honour from Total 4x4 Magazine.

The judges put the CR-V up against several respected rivals, and after being picked as the best in the 'medium SUV' segment, it became a contender for the overall 'best of the best' title, which it duly won.

Total 4x4 Magazine's testing process is comprehensive, ranging from interior quality, comfort and practicality to

repeated drives of a set road route by different judges.

Alan Kidd, the publication's editor, says: "Never before have there been so many likely candidates for the overall title."

"However, from the moment we started crawling around inside the CR-V, it was clear Honda had hit the jackpot."

"The quality of its interior is on a par with the best, and its flexibility is exceptional - and that was before we actually drove it."

"Seldom has a new 4x4 put such a

big tick in so many boxes. It takes an awful lot to impress us these days. The new CR-V didn't just impress us, it made our jaws drop."

Dave Hodgetts, managing director of Honda, was thrilled with the honour.

He says: "For the new CR-V to take its first award so soon after launch is a real festive treat for everyone and a fantastic way to end the year. We hope it will be the first of many."

The new CR-V is in dealerships now, with prices starting from £21,395 OTR for the entry level 2.0 i-VTEC S grade 2WD model.

Five-star safety award for Vauxhall Mokka



Sales executive Phil Ellison with the new Mokka

The general sales manager of Shropshire's award-winning Vauxhall dealership has welcomed the five-star safety award presented to the new Mokka SUV.

"The Mokka is one of only a handful of cars to achieve 100 per cent in the safety assist category," said Bruce Rogerson who heads up the Arthurs Vauxhall sales operation at their Oswestry branch.

Mokka has been awarded five stars by Euro NCAP (European New Car Assessment Program), the independent consumer organisation.

"Vauxhall offers the highest possible safety standards to its customers and the Mokka is no exception," said Bruce.

"Overall, the Mokka achieved impressive results in all five safety categories tested by Euro NCAP, scoring maximum points in the safety assist category."

"Mokka joins other Vauxhall models,

including Astra, Corsa, Insignia, Meriva and Zafira which all scored the top rating of five stars in the Euro NCAP program.

"The strong test rating was for Mokka's electronic stability control, its seatbelt reminder function and its speed limitation assistance."

The Mokka starts at £15,995 on the road and has the manufacturer's groundbreaking Lifetime Warranty.

● For further information contact Steve Rogerson on 01691 652235.

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2009 09 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5-door Hatch Manual. Metallic Blue, one owner, only 1,500 miles £7,899



2010 10 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACCENTA Cafe Latte Metallic, 18,000 miles, FSH, one owner £11,499



2009 09 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACCENTA Bright Blue Metallic, one owner, FSH £11,499



2011 11 BMW 320d SE 118hp.p 6-speed. Metallic Red, 14,000 miles, one owner, FSH £18,499



2011 11 BMW 116d M SPORT 5-door Manual. White, 18,000 miles, £30 a year road tax £15,499



2009 09 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI SE SALOON SE 140bhp 6-speed Manual. Bright Red, 35,000 miles, one owner, FSH £13,999



2010 10 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI AVANTE SE 143bhp 6-speed Manual. Metallic Silver, 64,000 miles, one owner, FSH £13,999

2007 57	AUDI RS4 SALOON 6 speed, Manual. Avis Blue Metallic, Graphite alloy wheels, full leather, sat nav, fully loaded, must be seen, 52,000 miles, FSH	£24,499
2010 10	AUDI A4 2.0 TDI AVANTE SE 143bhp 6 speed Manual. Metallic Silver, 64,000 miles, one owner, FSH	£13,999
2009 59	AUDI A4 2.0 TDI SE SALOON SE 140 bhp. Bright Red, 35,000 miles, one owner, manual 6 speed, FSH	£13,999
2010 10	AUDI A4 2.0 TDI SE AVANT 6-speed Manual 140bhp. Metallic Silver, 64,000 miles, FSH	£13,999
2011 11	BMW 116 d M Sport, 5-door. White, Manual, 18,000 miles, £30 a year tax + duty	£15,499
2009 58	BMW 320d SE Coupe Auto. Platinum Bronze Metallic, one owner, 56,000 miles, FSH	£13,999
2007 57	BMW 120d SE Coupe 6 speed Manual. Metallic Grey, 50,000 miles, FSH	£11,999
2006 06	BMW 318i M-SPORT CONVERTIBLE Manual, only 38,000 miles, immoveable Red, FSH	£9,999
2011 11	BMW 320d SE 6-speed Manual 184BHP. Metallic Red, 14,000 miles, one owner, FSH	£18,499
2003 03	BMW X5 4.6 iS Auto Estate. Blue Metallic, Black leather, sat nav/TVDVD, sunroof, fully loaded, 53,000 miles, FSH	£9,999
2009 59	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR 1.6 HDi 5-door Manual. Metallic Red, 17,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2009 59	CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi AIRDREAM 5-door. Metallic Silver, 30 a year Road Tax, 1 owner	£6,999
2006 06	FIAT PUNTO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE 5-door. Metallic Blue, 20,000 miles, FSH	£3,499
2009 09	FORD FUSION ZETEC 1.4 TDCi 5-door. Blue Metallic, 27,000 miles, one owner, £30 a year road tax	£7,499
2007 56	FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 1.6 Manual. Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles	£4,999
2009 59	FORD MONDEO TDCi ZETEC 6 Speed Manual. Blue Metallic, 27,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH	£9999
2009 59	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5-door Hatch Manual. Metallic Blue, one owner, only 1,500 miles	£7,899
2005 05	HONDA JAZZ 1.2 S 5-door. Black, 6,800 miles	SOLD
2009 59	KIA CEE'D 1.6 5-door Diesel. Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owners	£8,499
2009 59	KIA SOUL 2.1 5-door. 1 owner, Metallic Silver, 12,000 miles	£8,499
2005 05	LAND ROVER FREELANDER TD4 SW 5-door Manual. Metallic Green, only 39,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2004 04	MAZDA MX5 1.6 Manual, only 38,000 miles, Metallic Silver, FSH	SOLD
2004 04	MERCEDES C180 COMPRESSOR SE Coupe Manual. Metallic Blue, 93,000 miles, FSH	£3,999
2005 55	NISSAN PRIMESTAR Camper Van 2.7 DCi 6 speed Manual. Brand new camper conversion by Gee Wagen, 57,000 miles	£11,999
2009 59	NISSAN NOTE VISIA 1.6 Auto 5-dr. 1 owner, 24,000 miles	£6,999
2009 59	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 ACCENTA 5-door Manual. Cafe Latte Metallic, one owner, 39,000 miles, FSH	£5,999
2009 59	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACCENTA Bright Blue Metallic, 18,000 miles, one owner, FSH	£11,499
2010 59	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACCENTA Cafe Latte Metallic, 18,000 miles, FSH, one owner	£11,499
2009 59	PEUGEOT 107 98cc 5-door. Red, 10,000 miles, FSH, 1 owner, £20 a year Road Tax	£6,499
2009 53	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 ESTATE Manual. +3,000 miles, Metallic Grey	£1,999
2004 04	PORSCHE CARRERA 4s 4X4, 4 Wheel Drive. Silver Metallic, Grey Leather, 46,000 miles, FSH, must be seen	REDUCED £24,999
2009 59	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE EXTREME 5-door. Metallic Blue, 9,000 miles, 1 owner	£6,999
2007 57	RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 Wheelchair access vehicle, Metallic Blue, 1 owner, only 14,000 miles	DUE IN
2005 55	RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Hatchback Manual. Metallic Silver, 90,000 miles	£2,499
2009 59	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 HATCHBACK 5-door. Metallic Red, 24,000 miles, 1 owner	£6,999
2009 59	RENAULT CLIO 16v EXPRESSION 5-door. Metallic Silver, 25,000 miles	£6,499
2009 59	SEAT Ibiza 1.6 SPORT 5-door. Metallic Grey, 24,000 miles, FSH	£6,999
2009 09	SKODA FABIA 2.1 4 Estate. Blue Metallic, one owner, only 15,000 miles from new	£7,499
2008 08	SKODA OCTAVIA 1.9 TDI ELEGANCE Estate, DSG Automatic, Metallic Green, FSH	£8,999
2008 58	TOYOTA AURIS TR D4D HATCHBACK Manual. Metallic Grey, 28,000 miles	£7,499
2007 07	TOYOTA AURIS TR 2.0 D4D 5-door Hatchback. Metallic Silver, 75,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2009 59	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6 CLUB 5-door. Metallic Blue, one owner, 18,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2009	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 1.6 HATCHBACK 5-door. One owner, 1,300 miles, Metallic Silver	£6,499
2009 59	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXi 5-door. Grey Metallic, 24,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
1999 97	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.1 5-door. Manual, 61,000 miles, Metallic Silver	SOLD
2010 60	VAUXHALL COMBO 1.3 CDTi Van. White, only 23,000 miles, FSH, 1 owner	£4,999 + VAT
2009 59	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRi 3-door. Automatic, Metallic Black, 1 owner, 12,000 miles	£7,499
2009 59	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA CDTi EXCLUSIVE 160bhp Manual. Metallic Red, 43,000 miles, 1 owner	£8,999
2003 03	VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.0 TDI SALOON Manual. Metallic Grey, 84,000 miles	£2,999
2009 59	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi HATCHBACK 120bhp EXCLUSIVE Metallic Silver, only 39,000 miles, FSH	£6,999
2008 08	VOLVO XC90 SE DE Geartronic, 7 Seats, 43,000 miles, half leather interior FSH Graphite Grey Metallic	£17,999
2008 58	VW PASSAT 2.0HDI HIGHLINE 140hp ESTATE, 6 speed manual, metallic blue, 84,000 miles, full leather	£7,999
2005 55	VOLVO V50 2.0 D SE ESTATE. Metallic Silver, full leather, 84,000 miles	£5,999
2009 59	VOLVO S40 2.0 TDI 140bhp 4-door. Blue Metallic, 1 owner, only 8,000 miles from new	£10,999
2009 09	VW GOLF 2.0 TDI SE 5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 37,000 miles, one owner	SOLD
2008 58	VW POLO MATCH 1.4 AUTOMATIC 5-door. Black Metallic, 59,000 miles, alloy wheels, privacy glass	£5,999
2003 03	VW POLO 1.4 3-door Manual. Bright Red, 61,000 miles, FSH	£3,250
2009 09	VW SCIROCCO GT 2.0 TFSI COUPE 200PS Blue Metallic, one owner, only 13,700 miles, 5-speed box, 18" alloy, climate control, parking sensors	£15,999

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SPORT

Ellesmere on top of the league after win

IT WAS all change in the first week back after the break as Ellesmere reached the top of Malcolm Lewis Developments Oswestry & District Snooker League Division 1 table.

Ellesmere went top thanks to a 4-1 away win at Ex Servicemens A.

Michael Dubicki starred with a 57 break in his 119-24 win over Johnny Edwards.

Ian Jones took the solitary point for the home side making him the first player to take a point from Ellesmere when on their travels this season.

Cefn went into second-place due to a cancelled fixture while third placed Flexsys A scored an impressive 4-1 home win against Corwen.

There were good wins from Mitch Roberts, Nick Lee, Pete Bowley, and Colin Jones for Flexsys A.

Corwen's Ian Jones saved the whitewash with a tight win over Telford Hughes. There were other 4-1 wins for Glyn Ceiriog at home to Ex Serv C with Daf Edwards round scoring and Llangollen Rafa away at Rhos Snooker Club with J Riley starring for the Rafa.

In Division 2 Criftons stretched their lead thanks to a 4-1 win over Ifon with big wins from Andy Richards and Mark Newbrook. Morda helped the cause of the leaders losing 2-3 at home however no card has been received.

Four Crosses scored an impressive 5-0 win over Ex Serv B with impressive victories for Dan Fletcher and Wayne Watkins.

Llanrhaeadr A scored a 4-1 win over Glyn Ceiriog B with Paul Prust top scoring. Whilst Llanrhaeadr B went up the road to Llangynog and helped themselves to a 4-1 win with high scoring wins from Dave Leyland and Tristan Owen.

Latest tables

Oswestry & District Snooker League

SNOOKER DIVISION 1				
	P	W	L	F A Pts
Ellesmere A	11	10	1	42 13 42
Cefn RBL	10	10	0	41 9 41
Flexsys A	11	7	4	31 24 31
Glyn Ceiriog A	11	6	5	28 27 28
Ex Serv C	11	6	5	26 29 26
Ex Serv A	11	6	5	23 32 23
Ex Serv E	10	4	6	23 27 23
Corwen	11	4	7	23 32 23
Llan Rfa A	11	4	7	22 32 22
Rhos Snooker Club	11	1	10	19 36 19
Ex Serv D	10	1	9	17 33 17

SNOOKER DIVISION 2				
	P	W	L	F A Pts
Criftons	11	10	1	40 15 40
Morda	11	8	3	37 18 37
Ifon	11	8	3	34 21 34
Four Crosses	11	8	3	32 23 32
Llanrhaeadr B	11	6	5	32 23 32
Flexsys B	11	5	6	28 27 28
Glyn Ceiriog B	11	5	6	26 29 26
Llanrhaeadr A	11	4	7	23 31 24
Ex Serv B	11	3	8	17 38 17
Ellesmere B	10	2	8	17 33 17
Llangynog	11	1	10	13 42 13

Stonehouse Brewery Oswestry & District Dominoes League

P W L F A Pts				
Top White Lion	14	9	1	29 22
White Lion	14	7	2	25 29 19
Bell Oswestry	13	6	2	45 33 17
Plus Yn Dinas	14	7	4	47 37 17
Black Lion B	14	7	4	46 38 17
Black Lion A	14	8	5	45 39 17
Cross Keys	14	4	3	45 39 15
Staxys	14	4	4	44 40 14
Pennyton Inn	14	5	4	43 41 14
Horsehoe	14	6	6	42 42 14
Rhos	14	6	5	39 45 13
Black Horse	14	3	6	34 50 11
Royal Hill	14	1	12	21 63 3
Black Lion B4, Black Lion A2, Pennyton Inn 1, Cross Keys 5, White Lion Llynch 2, Horsehoe 4, Station 4, Royal Hill 2, Plus Yn Dinas 2, Black Horse 4, Top White Lion 4, Railway 2.				

Youngsters win

COBRA's youngsters marched on in the North Wales Youth Cup with a 48-5 victory at Rhyl in the second round. The Mefford lads ran out winners with an eight try haul. Jack Jukes was player of the match.

Captains join forces to support local charity

HENLLE Park Golf Club 2013 Club Captain Alun Jones, Lady Captain Doreen Nicol and Junior Captain Brad Edwards officially drove into office on Saturday, January 5.

They were supported by a large crowd of members and friends. This year the captains have joined forces to raise money for a local charity, the Charlotte Hartley Foundation.

Following the drive in there was a shotgun start for a fourball individual Stableford which attracted 86 members who enjoyed the first official competition of 2013. Winner of the event was Pat Roberts with 42pts, followed

by Neil Durban with 41pts and Daze Carver with 40pts on countback.

Nearest the Pin on the 12th was Anthony Davies while nearest The Pin in 2 on 7th was Phil Cattaneo.

In the ladies section the winner was Viv Davies with 38 pts, followed by Janet Johnson with 35pts and Lynn Edward with 31pts. The longest drive on the 17th hole was won by Viv Davies and she was also nearest the pin on the 8th hole. Winning guess the drive competition was Mike Aubrey for the captain's drive, Steve Baren for the lady captain's drive and Rob C P Jones for the junior captain's drive.



Before driving in at Henlle Park Golf Club are, from left, Lady Captain Doreen Nicol, Junior Captain Brad Edwards and Club Captain Alun Jones

Oswestry A still have good chance of Hargrove semis

OSWESTRY A golf team have a fighting chance of progressing to the semi-finals of the Hargrove Trophy following a narrow 2-1 (two holes) first leg loss at Shifnal A in their fourth round tie.

Mike Jones and Keith Miller won by two holes, but there were defeats for Christian Smith and Lee Anslow (3-0) and James Woodward and John Janicki who lost by just one hole. The return leg is on Sunday, January 20.

LLANYMYNECH B, who beat Oswestry B, will now play The Herefordshire B in their delayed fourth round match while Llanymynech A or Ludlow A will meet The Herefordshire A.

MILE END A trail 2.5-0.5 (12 holes) after the first leg of the Presidents Plate quarter-final clash at Market Drayton, leaving them with plenty to do for this Sunday's return.

Paul Miles and Darren Roberts halved their match but there were losses for Gavin Wright and Sam Pierpoint, who went down by three holes, and George Roger and Dave Thomas, who were beaten by nine holes.

Away from the Hargrove Trophy drama the new Oswestry Golf Club men's captain Bill Ferries drove into office.

Bill, a 13 handicapper, has nominated Shropshire Air Ambulance as his chosen charity for his year in office.



Bill Ferries drives in as Oswestry man's captain



Anita Brock starts her year as the lady captain

He has been a member of the Oswestry club for over 30 years and lives in Ellesmere.

The club's new lady captain Anita Brock also kicked off her year in office and she will be raising funds throughout her year for a children's cancer charity.

The second of the Sunday morning draw for partners four ball better ball medal over 15 holes attracted 38 entries and was won by Frank Morris and Vice Captain, Ian Pearce with a score of 56.

Second place went to Stuart Owen and David Thomas with 57.

There were four pairs with a score of 58. The winning pair on countback were Nigel Suckley and Martin Jones followed by Neil Wilson and John Bate, Simon Roberts and Gary Mumford and Oliver Hughes and Rob Harding.

The Rules Question Winner was Robin Rees.

Following a close loss to rival Newtown last

It's drive in time for club officials



New Welshpool Club Captain Richard Jones drives in watched by club members

THE captain's drive-in took place at Welshpool Golf Club on Saturday, January 5. There was a fantastic support the new captain, Richard Jones.

After the ceremony everyone enjoyed a great afternoon's golf with the added bonus that for once the weather stayed dry. The Texas 2 Ball Scramble was won by Mike Gittins and Colin Mumford with a score of 41.2. Second place was taken by Graham Hughes and Richard Evans with 41.8 and in third place was Mark Bell and Alun Brooks with 42.8.

On Sunday, January 6, there was the first Rabbits & Tigers of the year, which again was extremely well attended.

Winners of the 12 hole Stableford were Mark Roberts and Roger Davies with

31pts. They were followed by Mark Jones and James Watkins with 29pts. In third spot was Adrian Bowen and Guy Davies with 28pts who beat Nick Jones and Roger Davies on countback. Justin Williams won the Winter League match on Saturday, January 12 with 25pts. Beaten on countback in second place was Darren Pugh while Steve Proctor with 24pts was third and in fourth place was Richard Wyatt with 23pts. In the Rabbits & Tigers event on Sunday, January 13, Steve Lloyd and Roger Davies took top spot with 29pts. They were followed by Phil Constable and Clive Jones with 27pts and Dave Read and Terry Bowen with 26pts. Fourth spot went to Nick Jones and James Watkins with 26pts.



WELSHPOOL Golf Club Ladies Captain Dr Jayne Mitchell, third from left in the front row, is pictured after driving in to signal the start of her year in office. After the drive in there was a 12-hole individual stableford. Margaret Bowentook first prize with 20 points while Anne Newell edged Ellen Jones into third place on the countback (both with 19 points). The men's prize was won by Andy Cale with 25 points.

Holloway hits cracking goal to seal victory

SUBSTITUTE Pete Holloway fired a stunning last-gasp winner as Oswestry Boys Club secured a welcome 2-1 victory at lowly Wrockwaine Juniors to cement mid-table in the Mercian Regional League division one.

Despite dominating the encounter, the Oswestry visitors were locked at 1-1 with just a minute remaining when Joe Clarke made a cracking interception at full back and launched a final raid. Clarke switched the play to Gwyn

Davies whose cross into the box was headed out only as far as Holloway who produced a moment of magic with a 25-yard acrobatic overhead kick which found the top corner of the net.

The Boys Club were well worth the spoils, going a goal up within five minutes with Jordan Gerrard and Kyle Wilson linking up well to provide a chance for Craig Hughes who finished neatly.

The visitors pushed on after their opening goal as they dominated large spells of possession with Gerrard excellent on the left of mid-field.

Hughes and Ollie Canlett missed chances from close range but the visitors were stunned when Wrockwaine Wood broke for Ben Topping to slot in despite the ball appearing to out of play.

As play resumed after the break, the Boys Club continued to press with Hughes again denied by the in-form home keeper before Holloway's late stunner settled it.

Buoyed by the win, the Boys Club now head to Clee Hill on Saturday, with the south Shropshire hosts lying two places below.

Fourth bottom MORDA RES slumped 6-1 at high-flying Madeley Sports whose Shaun Davies fired a hat-trick. Morda bid to bounce back at home to Meole Brace on Saturday.

Latest tables

Shropshire Chess League

DIVISION 1				
	P	W	L	F A Pts
Telford A	7	6	0	24.5 9.5 13
Newport A	7	6	0	24.5 10.5 12
Shifnal & Telford A	7	3	2	20.5 14.5 8
Shrewsbury A	7	3	2	20 15 8
Priestley Lions A	7	2	3	17.5 17.5 6
Church Stretton A	7	2	4	15.5 19.5 5
Shifnal & Telford B	7	1	6	11 24 2
Telford B	7	1	6	5.5 28.5 2

DIVISION 2				
	P	W	L	F A Pts
Newport B	8	6	1	26 14 13
Wellington A	7	6	0	25 10 13
Priestley Lions B	8	5	1	18 12 10
Ludlow A	8	3	4	18 22 7
Shrewsbury B	7	3	4	18.5 16.5 6
Telford C	8	2	5	18 22 5
Priestley Lions C	8	2	4	14 26 4
Shifnal & Telford D	8	1	7	12.5 27.5 2

DIVISION 3

P W L F A Pts				
Oswestry A	7	5	0	20 8 12
Wellington B	7	4	0	19 9 11
Newport D	7	4	1	17.5 16.5 10
Shrewsbury C	7	3	2	16 12 8
Newport C	7	1	3	11.5 16.5 5
Oswestry B	7	1	4	11 17 4
Shifnal & Telford D	7	1	4	10 18 4
Telford D	7	0	5	7 21 2

English Rugby Clubs Championships

SOUTH LANCs/CHESHIRE DIVISION 2				
	P	W	D	L BP Pts
Sutton	16	15	0	1 13 73
Douglas	16	14	0	2 11 67
Dukinfield	16	11	1	4 10 56
L'pool Collegiate	16	11	0	5 13 53
Vagabonds	16	9	1	6 11 49
Ormskirk	14	9	0	5 10 46
Oswestry	16	7	1	8 4 40
Southern	16	5	1	10 38
Oldershaw	16	5	0	11 5 25
Ramsay	16	6	0	10 5 24
Marple	14	4	1	11 18 4
Moore	15	5	0	10 5 20
Wallasey	14	3	1	10 5 19
Buxton	15	2	0	13 5 13

Hockey ladies looking to remain unbeaten

week, Welshpool Ladies will be hoping to bounce back on Saturday when they meet Dysynni at home with only a point separating them in the league table.

After a long period of cancelled games Welshpool Ladies finally got back into action on Saturday, braving the bad weather they played Newtown away in their first game of the new year.

Despite some great play Welshpool lost 1-0. The match started with good work from both sides and Welshpool managed to negate the Newtown pressure with solid defending.

Both teams seemed to be equally matched and

after a number attacking phases from each the halftime whistle arrived with no score.

Newtown continued to add pressure in the second half, which paid off as one of their players drove to the base line before cutting in past the Welshpool defence, scoring the only goal of the game.

The goal spurred the Welshpool side into action as they pressed Newtown, but it was to no avail as the Newtown defence remained strong for the remainder of the match.

The derby ended with Welshpool suffering their first loss of the season but they will be looking to get back on winning form when they face Dysynni next week.

Pressure

Despite some great play Welshpool lost 1-0. The match started with good work from both sides and Welshpool managed to negate the Newtown pressure with solid defending.

Both teams seemed to be equally matched and

By Edward Roberts

AFTER a triumphant 2012 Oswestry Ladies hope to remain unbeaten as they face Chester and District Ladies again on Saturday.

The two teams met back in October with Oswestry coming out on top in a 2-1 victory.

Oswestry have gone from strength to strength since then and will be the favourites to win again.

In the men's game Oswestry 2s will hope to break a two match losing streak as they go up against Wrexham Glyndwr Men's 4s on Sunday.

It will be the second time that they've faced each other, with Oswestry coming off the better of the two last time, winning 4-1.

Following a close loss to rival Newtown last

SPORT

Win helps Rhyn in survival fight

WESTON Rhyn boosted hopes of escaping the drop in the Mercian Regional League Premier Division with a crucial 1-0 home success over Ketley Bank, with the win lifting them out of the bottom two.

A second half goal form Ryan Leightwood proved enough to separate the sides in an evenly poised encounter, with Rhyn now going above Whitchurch Alport on goal difference, while they are just three points adrift of Wellington Amateurs reserves.

In one of only two premier division games to survive the weather, both sides had their chances, with home keeper Paul Morris pulling off a couple of superb saves to ensure three points.

Chances

The only goal of the game arrived in the second half when the hard working Matthew Hardy launched a strong run down the right before earning a free kick.

From the resulting kick, the ball was played in by Tim Steel and Leightwood scored from close range.

Rhyn had other chances, but so did their Telford visitors who may have thought they did enough to gain a point, but the win could prove vital for the hosts who have no game this weekend, before visiting Allscott the following Saturday.

Lions hit eleven to go third in league

Oswestry Lions 11 Shawbury Res 0

FREE-scoring Oswestry Lions roared up to third spot in the Mercian Regional League division one with an 11-0 demolition of Shawbury United reserves.

Scott Bright, in his first league game since returning from Four Crosses, led the way with four of the goals while there was a hat-trick for Ben Williams and two for half time sub Chris Bishop.

The win puts them in good heart for Saturday's home clash with Rock Rovers.

It took only two minutes for the Lions to open the scoring when Ben Williams beat the keeper.

Moments later, the Oswestry side doubled their lead through Bright, but they had to wait before Thomas Steadman set up Williams to notch his second of the game with a cheeky finish on 34 minutes.

Williams then turned provider to send Bright through to coolly slot the ball home three minutes later but boss Nick Maguire wanted more in the second half. Five minutes after the break Bright hit his second hat-trick on the spin when firing in from 25 yards.

Shortly after, Williams completed his hat-trick with the goal of the game with a super volley. Bishop lashed home the seventh, Thomas Steadman added No8, another sub Martin Cheese-man slotted home the ninth and Bright added his fourth and the Lions' 10th.

A fine performance was polished off when Bishop hit an unstoppable shot from 24 yards in last few minutes of the game.

Table

MERCIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		P	W	D	L
Church Stretton	1	17	9	4	32	31	31		1	17	9	4
AFC Ludlow	2	12	9	1	37	13	29		2	12	9	1
Marble United	3	14	8	3	35	20	27		3	14	8	3
FC Hornsea	4	15	8	5	24	16	26		4	15	8	5
Telford Juniors	5	13	7	3	22	15	24		5	13	7	3
Shifnal United	6	17	6	7	37	21	24		6	17	6	7
Quakergate Ath.	7	14	6	6	31	25	20		7	14	6	6
Allscott	8	15	6	7	37	33	20		8	15	6	7
Ketley Bank Ltd	9	17	6	9	24	35	20		9	17	6	9
Wellington Amers R.	10	13	4	7	18	28	14		10	13	4	7
Weston Rhyn	11	16	3	11	34	31	11		11	16	3	11
Whitchurch Alb R.	12	13	2	7	20	34	10		12	13	2	7
Dawley Town	13	7	5	24	4				13	7	5	24

DIVISION 1												
	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	D
Ketley Town	1	18	16	2	95	24	48		1	18	16	2
Masbury Sports	2	17	12	3	58	18	38		2	17	12	3
Oswestry Lions	3	17	12	3	65	27	38		3	17	12	3
Rock Rovers FC	4	15	11	1	66	26	36		4	15	11	1
Pres FC	5	16	11	5	62	29	33		5	16	11	5
Bishops Castle T	6	19	9	3	56	29	31		6	19	9	3
Wroxeter Rovers	7	15	9	5	50	29	28		7	15	9	5
Oswestry BC	8	16	8	29	27	21		8	16	8	29	27
Brown Cle	9	15	8	32	40	15		9	15	8	32	40
Cle Hill	10	14	4	28	48	13		10	14	4	28	48
Meole Brace	11	17	3	12	27	62	11		11	17	3	12
Wellington Amers R.	12	14	10	1	23	61	10		12	14	10	1
Hopsgate Utd	13	14	3	21	60	6		13	14	3	21	60
Shawbury Utd Res	14	2	11	11	87	6		14	2	11	11	87
Wrock Wood Jrs	15	1	14	19	84	3		15	1	14	19	84

COBRA title hopes suffer as they are beaten by leaders

COBRA's title hopes in the SWALEC Welsh League division two (north) appear to be over after suffering their second defeat of the season at the hands of high flying Denbigh.

Having lost 10-3 at home to their title rivals earlier in the season, the Meifod men were chasing revenge when they made the return trip to Denbigh.

But they were gunned down 28-13, and to make matters worse the home side bagged a bonus point after scoring five tries, and now hold what looks an unassailable nine-point lead at the top of the table.

The encounter was far closer than the scoreline suggests, with the visitors in the hunt for most of the time before two late tries sealed their fate.

With two teams automatically being promoted this season, COBRA's focus now is now

on making sure they finish runners-up. Although they hold a healthy 11 point lead in second spot, promotion rivals Llangollen – whom they meet in a couple of weeks – do have three games in hand.

With six league games remaining, the Llanfair Caeirin outfit realistically need to win four of those to make sure of promotion.

Before then, then will be looking to put record straight on Saturday when they again come face to face with Denbigh, this time at home in the fourth round of the Swalec Bowl.

"It's not ideal playing the same side two weeks running," said COBRA spokesman James Watkin, "but we know we can compete with them. There was not a lot in the game last week."

A confident Denbigh utilised their large pitch well in last Saturday's encounter, using the width to run in some excellent tries.

But COBRA, despite being disrupted by a couple

Victory stops rot for second team

AFTER three defeats, Oswestry II stopped the rot in the Ragging Bull North West League division three south with a 19-0 home verdict against rock bottom Altrincham III.

The Eagles began the game in the bottom two for the first time this season and looked to avenge an earlier defeat at the hands of the only team below them.

They were in no mood to let Altrincham settle and ran in three tries, the first touchdown being one of their best of the season.

Flanker Sam Wright made the initial incision through the centre offloading to captain Jerry Wilford who then worked the ball wide for



England netball star Tamsin Greenway with Ellesmere College's netball captain Sian Gatenby

Netball star Tamsin gives training to college pupils

ENGLAND International Netball Player Tamsin Greenway visited a Shropshire school to give pupils a training session under her expert eye.

A strong leader both on and off the court, Tamsin visited Ellesmere College to provide basic netball skills and attacking play training sessions for the 1st, 2nd, U15A, U14A teams.

A current England International, Tamsin has been in the squad since 2004 and has over 40 caps.

She played in the 2007 World Championships in New Zealand and most recently was part of the bronze medal winning side at the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games.

After some impressive international form and performances Tamsin was also selected for the World Netball Team in 2009; a selection of the best International players in the world.

Tamsin said: "It's lovely to be asked to host a few sessions at Ellesmere College I have heard a lot of good things about the school and everyone seems to have enjoyed

my sessions. All the netball teams were really keen to learn a few new skills and I think they will all have a good season this year."

As current Surrey Storm captain the move proved a success with the team narrowly missing out in the Super League Grand Final live on Sky Sports in only their second year.

Tamsin began her career in 2002 with the University based franchise Team Bath.

International

After eight years and four titles the vice captain decided to move to the newly formed franchise Surrey Storm in 2010 to focus on different challenges.

Head of PE Helen Davenport said: "We have regular guest coaches from international teams that visit the college and it's great to have Tamsin taking a few sessions."

"She is at the top of her sport in both playing and coaching and our teams really enjoyed the sessions on attacking play."

Rangers go out of cup in penalty shoot-out

Ellesmere Rangers 1 Hanwood United 1 (AET 90 mins 3-3, Hanwood win 6-5 on penalties)

HANWOOD UNITED joint boss Phil Price has hailed his side's 'never say die' attitude after they knocked higher league Ellesmere Rangers out of the Shropshire Challenge Cup.

The West Midlands Regional League outfit edged past the Meresiders, who play league football two division north in the Midlands Alliance, on their own patch 6-5 on penalties after the second round tie had finished 1-1.

Hanwood goalkeeper Ash Spittlehouse became the hero when he saved fellow shot stopper Dave Maguire's spot kick in sudden death.

But Price was full of praise for his entire team, which will travel to West Midlands Premier side Wellington Amateurs in the next round.

"I'm ecstatic," he said. "There were some great performances from the team. The effort and commitment was unbelievable as was the never-say-die attitude."

"We had to play well. They are struggling in their league but they are two divisions above us but it was a good, even game and we matched them."

Target

After 90 minutes of goal-less football Adam Snaede put the visitors ahead early in the first half of extra-time with a cool finish past Maguire.

This was cancelled midway through the second period by an equally fine effort by Ellesmere substitute Matt Preece from Kevin Renshaw's pass.

From there the stalemate remained leading to the lottery of penalties, which also finished level at 3-3 after five kicks each.

Maguire saved two Hanwood efforts while Rangers had twice missed the target.

The teams still could not be separated until Maguire stepped up with the score at 5-5 and saw his spot-kick saved by his Hanwood counterpart to put the visitors through.

Price conceded that his team will again be underdogs in the next round, which again pits them away at higher-league opposition.

But he added: "We will look forward to it. They are among the highest-placed teams left in the competition so it doesn't get any easier but we will go there with no fear. We give every side we play the utmost respect but we don't fear anybody."

St Martins game is hit by weather

LOOKING to improve on their 12th placing in the West Midlands League division one, St Martins were frustrated as their trip to Wyrley was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch following a mid morning inspection.

Derek Stokes' side now face tricky chalk at fourth placed Hanwood United on Saturday, weather permitting, as they bid to get the second half of the season up and running.

At least the lack of action has allowed the Saints more time to get some of their injured players back to fitness, but they could face a growing backlog of games to fit in at the end of the season.



COBRA go on the attack in the defeat against the league leaders Denbigh



COBRA win the ball and launch the backs in their 28-13 defeat at Denbigh

Outgunned Eagles slip to third defeat on the trot

OSWESTRY slipped to their third defeat on the bounce in the South Lincs Cheshire Two when going down 43-5 at promotion chasing Dukinfield.

The Eagles filled a much changed lineup giving first team debuts to Dale Downes and Will Groombridge plus a first start to Jamie Lockett.

However, they were well beaten by a strong Dukinfield side that are particularly good at home while playing to their forward strengths for the full 80 minutes.

Oswestry's cause was not helped by a really poor performance by a referee who was both technically inept plus being unable to control the game as the numerous stoppages for fights confirmed.

The visitors were first to attack the try line after an Andy Merritt fly back followed by a good chase a rolling maul that earned a penalty which shaved the upright.

Yet, Oswestry found themselves on the

back foot for most of the first half as the home team constantly used their big pack to drive forward.

And Dukinfield opened the scoring by working the ball up field and finished the move with smart inter passing inside the Oswestry 22 to score and convert.

The Eagles had only two more first half scoring opportunities as the home side built up a 12-0 lead.

Duckinfield opened the second half strongly with a try and continued to score at regular intervals adding a further five touchdowns.

Despite being up against it, Oswestry battled away until the end and scored a consolation try after a succession of forward drives that allowed Jamie Lockett to score.

Although well beaten, the Eagles remain a seventh, but will need a good result at ninth placed Oldershaw on Saturday if they are to maintain that position.

SPORT

Hole scores a hat-trick in Rovers goal spree

STEVE Hole led the charge with a hat-trick as Waterloo Rovers swept aside Llansantffraid Village 6-0 to boost their prospects of a high finish in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

After hitting five the previous week against Newbridge, Rovers kept up the good work with a six-goal romp at Treflan with Steve Jones, Marcus Ashley and Charlie Proctor also finding the net.

Despite the comfortable win, Waterloo remain sixth, but Dale Roberts' side are now just four points off second spot.

At the other end of the table, **WELSHPOOL TOWN'S** disappointing start to the year continued as they suffered a 4-1 loss at Builth Wells in their first league action.

Penalty

The Lilywhites are now third from bottom, with Carno edging above Dave Jones' men on goal difference following their 3-0 win at Aberystwyth University.

A goal from David Rowlands separated the sides at the break before Tom Lapworth and Craig Stephens settled the issue in the second period.

High flying Llanidloes Town were held to a 1-1 draw at Bow Street who had taken the lead through Stuart Fraser before Jamie Breese levelled late on.

The Daffs, who also saw Gareth Mansell have a penalty saved, are now five points clear at the top from second placed Four Crosses.

Aberaeron kept in touching distance of the pacesetters with a 2-1 home verdict against Dolgellau courtesy of goals from Matthew Clarke and Gareth Evans.

Leaders go five points clear after draw game

HIGH-flying Llanrhaeadr reserves moved five points clear at the top of the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire league division one despite being held 3-3 by lowly Trefonen.

Endaf Owens, Barry Morris and Ed Leyland were on the mark for the league leaders but Trefonen, despite lying second bottom, responded through a Gareth Morgan brace and Lee Morris to earn parity.

Cae'rws reserves stayed in pursuit with a 3-0 win at Bettws with Ryan Jehu and Sam Williams (2) on the mark, while midtable Meifod were held 1-1 at home to Llangedwyn, Alun Hughes on target for the hosts and Rich Evans replying. LLANYMYNECH, lying second bottom of the Mithubisi division two, earned a 3-3 home draw with FOUR CROSSES reserves. Crant Jones, Mike Evans and Rob Jones were on the mark for Llany, with Jack Brayne (2) and Joe Morris the marksman for the visitors.

BERRIEW reserves bowed out of The Robins (Newtown) League Cup with a 5-0 exit in the second round to Newtown reserves whose Mark Salvati bagged a hat-trick, while Martyn Lewis and Aaron Warwick also found the net.

College match

DERWEN College is staging a special football match against a Wrexham XI at its Oswestry ground on Wednesday, January 23, kick off 1.15pm.

Morda boosted as two key players stay



Sam Jones

MORDA United were handed a boost in their challenge for Merccian Regional League premier division crown with two key players spurning advances from other clubs.

However, the rain and sleet at the weekend prevented them from seeing any action last Saturday, while the reserve side perhaps wished the same had been true for them as they crashed to a 6-1 defeat at second-in-table Madeley Sports in the first division.

Morda's first team were hoping to reinforce their premier division title credentials by defeating fellow challengers Telford Juniors.

Unfortunately, the rain overnight and early morning flurries of snow left the Weston Road pitch waterlogged.

Local referee Graeme Sutton carried out an inspection at 10.30am and confirmed club officials' views by postponing the match.

It proved a dampener for manager Craig Rogers, but his promotion hopes were given a tonic with two of his key players choosing to stay with the club.

Ever-present goalkeeper Sam Jones

rejected an approach from successful West Midland League side Haughmond, while striker Gary Meredith also chose to stay with the Weston Road side despite an enquiry from Spar Mid Wales Division One title chasers Four Crosses.

"Having two key players turn down moves is pleasing," said delighted Morda boss Craig Rogers.

"We have such a strong squad here at Morda it seems we are hearing from teams on a weekly basis chasing our players."

Commitment

"Gary is more than happy at the club and is eager to score goals and be successful, while Sam didn't even let me finish explaining about the approach and he said he wasn't leaving."

"As a manager it gives you confidence to know you have such commitment from your players."

It would be easy for Sam because Haughmond are two leagues above, a very good team, are looking to win things, and play on the best pitch in Shropshire about 500 yards from his front door."



Gary Meredith

Guils on the up after best performance of the season

GUILSFIELD moved into the top half of the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance table with a comprehensive 3-0 win against an in-form Llandudno in probably their best performance of the season.

The Seasideers had arrived in Mid Wales on the back of an impressive run of victories themselves under new manager Alan Morgan, but the Guils proved too strong on the day.

Llandudno looked the sharper of the two teams at the start but Martyn Ziemann put the hosts ahead on nine minutes when he charged down away keeper Andy Metcalf's attempted clearance. Ziemann doubled his tally seven minutes later with a neat finish after good work by Mark Davies down the left flank to further rock the visitors.

Guilsfield's midfield worked tirelessly to stifle and frustrate Llandudno while the home defence had little to trouble them for most part.

Midfielder Gareth Jones capped a fine game and sealed the victory on the hour mark with a strong run and shot which Metcalf failed to hold. Llandudno's best chance fell to Lee Thomas when his turn and shot shaded the post.

Veteran keeper and former Guils manager Mike Barton, in for the injured Dave Littleford, used all his experience to marshal his defence against a potent Llandudno forward line. This was probably Guilsfield's best performance of the season and they fully deserved the three points against good opposition, putting them in a good heart for Saturday's short trip to local rivals Llanrhaeadr.

Huws Gray Alliance

Rhyl	P	W	L	F	Agg	Pts
Cae'rws	18	13	4	60	19	51
Cefn Druids	16	10	3	35	16	33
Conwy Borough	17	10	4	30	22	33
Holyhead Hospal	19	10	7	35	31	32
Buckley Town	18	7	5	32	22	27
Flint Town United	17	8	6	39	30	27
Guilsfield	16	7	7	30	30	23
Llandudno	19	6	10	19	36	21
Rhydyfrynwy	19	5	9	34	64	20
Penrhynoch	16	5	7	25	32	19
Portmadog	19	5	10	27	35	19
Rhayader Town	16	5	8	26	36	18
Penycae	17	4	11	22	49	14
Llanrhaeadr	17	2	11	17	53	10
Ruthin Town	17	2	13	26	36	8

Ten man **LLANRHAEDR** remain adrift in the Cymru Alliance basement zone but could point to positives from their battling 3-0 loss at Holyhead Hospal.

Despite having keeper Darren Powell harshly re-directed for handling outside the box early in the second half, the visitors more than matched the Anglesey side.

Alun Jones hit the post early on but Llanrhaeadr found themselves behind when Mike Cronshaw gave Holyhead the lead on 19 minutes.

The visitors had further opportunities, with Jones denied by the keeper and Jamie Evans also going close, to give them real hope of turning the game around in the second half.

But, just moments into the second period, they felt hard done by with Powell's dismissal as he came out to punch the ball clear, with the referee ruling it was outside the box and preventing a goalscoring opportunity.

The visitors were then victims of another harsh decision when Dan Kelly was ruled to have pushed a player and Jay Gibbs put away the 73rd minute penalty. Mel McGuinness completed the scoring in the closing moments.

New signing George Hughes made a good impression on his debut. Manager Mario Iaquina was delighted by his team's spirit.

"When you're near the bottom, you don't get any luck, but the lads showed tremendous character," he said.

Agony for Saints after they lose cup final on penalties



TNS players celebrate after Sam Finley, smothered by team-mates, restored his side's lead



Steve Evans celebrates his opening goal Pictures: KEVIN HUGHES

Carmarthen Town 3 The New Saints 3
(aet, 90 mins 3-3, Carmarthen won 3-1 on pens)

THE New Saints' chances of lifting an historic treble this season were gunned down at the first hurdle after a penalty shootout decided a pulsating Word Welsh Premier League Cup final at Newtown's Latham Park.

After 120 minutes of wholehearted action failed to separate the sides in a gruelling showdown, the destiny of the trophy rested in the hands, or more precisely, at the feet of the penalty takers.

And the Saints were found wanting as Ryan Fraughan and Chris Seargeant both sent their spot kicks over the bar before skipper and keeper Paul Harrison saw his effort saved by opposite number Steve Cann to spark the Carmarthen celebrations.

It was a tough outcome for the full-timers who, chasing their seventh league cup triumph, looked favourites to prevail in the extra period as they appeared to finish the stronger against the tiring Old Gold.

The Saints seemed to have snatched a winner when defender Connell Rawlinson got his head to a Fraughan corner with just minutes left on the clock, but referee Nick Pratt ruled it out for tugging an opponent's shirt.

And Carmarthen capitalised in the shootout to take the trophy to West Wales, leaving the Oswestry men to reflect on what might have been after twice relinquishing the lead. Some consolation is that TNS still have two other chances to lift some silverware this season as they lie seven points clear in the Welsh Premier League while they're still going strong in the Welsh Cup.

But the dramatic defeat in last Saturday's final would have been hard to take, with hopes of lifting an historic treble again proving elusive.

"I felt we did more than enough to win, we were very good in patches, scored three goals and had enough chances, but it wasn't to be," said TNS director of football Craig Harrison.

"Carmarthen worked hard and showed good desire and fitness, but we were not ruthless enough at both ends of the pitch and conceded three sloppy goals.

"We thought we had won it at the end when Connell

FOOTBALL

by John Bridgwater

scored. I have now watched it four or five times, and still couldn't see anything wrong with it.

The Saints started brightly with raids on both flanks, and went close to taking a fifth minute lead when Mike Wilde squared from the right but the incoming Chris Marriott could only force the ball past the post at full stretch.

But their early efforts were rewarded just a minute later as Marriott won the ball in the box, pulled back for Sam Finley who crossed for Steve Evans who marked his recall to the starting line-up by steering his header inside the left post.

The frantic start continued with Carmarthen going close to a swift riposte when Ian Hillier headed against the bar from a left wing corner, while at the other end Chris Seargeant saw a powerful 25-yard strike well saved by keeper Cann.

Advantage

With the diminutive Finley looking particularly lively, TNS made light of a sticky surface as they almost doubled their lead on 20 minutes when Greg Draper just failed to connect with Wilde's cross from the right byline.

Carmarthen, surprise 3-0 winners in the league at Park Hall last November, sounded a warning mom-ents later when Casey Thomas had a goal bound effort blocked while Craig Hughes fired the loose ball over.

Wilde, however, was proving a menace at the other end as the league leaders looked sharp going forward, with the big striker being denied by the woodwork on 28 minutes as he met Chris Seargeant's right wing cross with a near post header.

But, for all their early endeavours, the Saints were pegged back four minutes before half time when, after failing to clear their lines, the ball fell for Craig Hughes whose deflected shot from 12 yards spun up over keeper Harrison and looped just under the bar.

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Return of players is big boost for Town

WELSHPOOL Town hope the return of several key players can halt their slide as they prepare for Saturday's home Spar Mid Wales League division one clash with title chasing Four Crosses.

The Lilywhites have lost their last four outings in all competitions, including last week's 4-1 defeat at Builth Wells (Sam Adams bagging their consolation), and manager Dave Jones knows his side need to stop the rot.

"At the beginning of December we were going well, but since then we have lost four on the bounce and we need to get out of our mini slump," he said.

Desperate

"We had six of our starting line-up missing last week which didn't help, but hopefully in a couple of weeks we can have almost everybody available."

Stuart Buckley Robbins, Tom Reynolds, keeper Calum Hennegan and Luke Francis are set to return while defender Ian Jones (ankle injury) could step back in a couple of weeks along with Mike Cockram.

Four Crosses have a busy weekend, visiting Welshpool on Saturday as they bid to keep up the title pressure, and then hosting Montgomeryshire Cup quarter-finals the following day.

"It's two big games for us," said manager Nick Poppy whose side are five points behind leaders Llanidloes with a game in hand. "Welshpool can be a bit indifferent, but you're never sure what side they're going to put out."

"Monty will be another tough game for us, but we're desperate to do well in cups this season."

Crosses, currently without suspended duo Matty Jones and Ryan Morris, face a crunch home clash with title rivals Llanidloes on Saturday, February 2.

Rovers hitmen hailed

WATERLOO Rovers boss Dale Roberts hailed his sharp shooters as they prepare for Saturday's home clash with Carno in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

From shipping in five goals against Tywyn Bryncreg, the Welshpool club have stormed back with a 5-1 hammering of Newbridge in the Central Wales Cup being followed by last Saturday's 6-0 win at Llansantffraid Village in the league.

"It's been an odd six weeks or so with us going from our worst performance of the season against Tywyn to our best on Sat-

urday," said Roberts.

"It was a very pleasing result and performance."

Every player put in a brilliant performance and we were well worth the points.

"We'll be looking to carry it on against Carno on Saturday who we realise have had improved results lately so we'll need to be on top of our game once again."

Steve Hole netted a hat-trick last week with Steve Jones, Marcus Ashley and Charlie Proctor also on target as Waterloo consolidated sixth spot, and are now just four points off second spot in the league.

COBRA out to strike leaders

COBRA will be hoping it's third time lucky when they host high flying Denbigh in the fourth round of rugby's Swalec Bowl on Saturday (2pm).

After two defeats at the hands of their rivals to effectively scupper any title chances in the Welsh League division two (north), the Meifod side will be out to put the record straight this weekend.

The latest loss to Denbigh came just last Saturday when the North Wales side ran out 28-13 winners to open up a nine point lead at the top of the table and tighten their grip on the crown.

COBRA are still well placed for

promotion courtesy of being in runners up spot, and believe they can shoot down the high fliers this weekend as they bid to maintain their interest in the Bowl.

"It's not ideal playing the same side two weeks running," said COBRA spokesman James Watkin, "but we know we can compete with them."

Hammering

"There was not a lot in the game last week, we were trailing by five points with 10 minutes to go before conceding two late tries."

"But if we play to our game plan and get three or four players back

who were missing last week, then we've got a chance."

WELSHPOOL, boosted by their 59-0 hammering of Porthmadog last week, are gearing up for a stern test at leaders Wrexham on Saturday as they bid to enhance their promotion claims in division three (north).

Fly half Phil Saunders and second row Ryan Goodwin each scored two tries as sixth placed Pool comfortably gained a bonus point victory to stay in touching distance of several sides above them.

● Rugby reports and pictures - Page 46

Mario is banking on derby home win

LOWLY Llanrhaeadr face a crunch home derby with Guilsfield on Saturday as they bid to revive their survival prospects in the Cymru Alliance.

Lying second from bottom, the hosts have plenty to do if they are to escape relegation danger, but boss Mario Iaquinta has been heartened by his team's efforts.

Despite losing 3-0 at Holyhead Hotspur last week, Llanrhaeadr enjoyed plenty of the game and had their chances, only to find themselves on the wrong end of some key decisions.

One of those saw keeper Darren Powell sent off for handling outside the box when attempting to punch the clear, while the visitors were also victims of a debatable penalty award.

"We didn't get any breaks but the lads showed tremendous character all through the game," said Iaquinta.

Performance

"We had our chances but nothing went for us, but we move on and we've now got a very important home game with Guilsfield. What will determine whether we stay up will be our home form."

Guilsfield were 2-0 winners in the corresponding game last season, and Iaquinta is banking on an improved display.

"Last season we did not perform against Guilsfield, it was the most disappointing performance of the season. We were flat and lacklustre, and the team owe me one after that."

New signing George Hughes made his mark last week but Llanrhaeadr are forced into a goalkeeping change with Darren Powell suspended, so Connor Lee steps in.

Meanwhile, the visit to Cefn Druids - postponed last month - has been rearranged for next Tuesday.

GUILSFIELD, who climbed up to eighth with a fine 3-0 home win over Llanudno, had a familiar face in goal last week - former boss Mike Barton, who deputised for the injured Dave Littleford.

NEW SIGNING PLAN TO END CUP AGONY

THE New Saints look to shake off their cup blues this week - with the possible arrival of at least one new signing providing a welcome tonic for the Welsh Premier title chasers.

After their penalty shootout defeat to Carmarthen in last Saturday's Word League cup final, it's now back to league action for the defending champions who tackle Aberystwyth Town at Park Hall on Saturday (3.45pm).

by John Bridgwater

And head coach Carl Darlington says there's no time for the Saints to feel sorry for themselves as they bid to tighten their grip at the top of the table, while hinting the squad could be strengthened this week.

"We're seven points clear and still in a great position this season, and there is a chance of at least one signing this week," he said. "Last Saturday was very disappointing, but there's no reason why there should be a hangover as it wasn't as if we played badly. If I was going to be critical, then we were not ruthless enough at both ends of the pitch."

"But there were a lot of positives from the game. We

scored three goals and created a lot of chances.

"Carmarthen worked hard and showed a lot of desire, but we did more than enough to win, it should never have gone to penalties which is always a cruel way to decide any final."

"The pitch didn't suit us, but we played well in patches, controlled the game, and had what we believed was a perfectly good goal disallowed at the end."

"The ref said Connell Rawlinson was tugging at the defender's shirt, but if anything it was the other way round. We all felt

aggrieved at the decision as there was nothing in it. It was a poor decision, and in the end cost us."

"We've now got to put that behind us and focus on Aberystwyth as they're all important games now with us coming down to the business end of the season."

"It's important we get back to winning ways in the league after two draws. We're seven points clear, and results elsewhere could not have been any better for us."

"We are in prime position, but we need to keep that distance."

"Aber also need to win to get into the top six, they'll be coming at us, so it will be a tough game. But we now need to pick ourselves up as winning the league and qualifying for the Champions League in the summer is our priority."

Forward Matty Williams, who missed last week's cup final with a hamstring injury, returned to training this week, while teenage defender Aaron Simms has joined Cymru Alliance side Conwy Borough on loan until the end of the season.

● Cup report and pictures on Page 47



TNS think they have scored the cup final winner but it was disallowed

Oswestry hockey men off to 9-3 flier

OSWESTRY made a flying start to the new year with a 9-3 home hammering of Yardley in hockey's ENER-G Midlands League division two (west).

Victory consolidated their place in a congested mid-table, and they are now just three points off fourth place.

It was Oswestry's second emphatic win

against Yardley this term, having also stormed to an 11-3 victory over the Birmingham outfit on the opening day of the season.

But it promises to be a much tougher contest on Saturday when the border men embark on a tricky clash against title chasing Ludlow at the William Brookes School Much Wenlock.

Morda facing away tests

MORDA United prepare to hit the road for a spell of away games as they seek to maintain their challenge in the Mercian Regional League premier division.

After last Saturday's home clash with Telford Juniors was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch, the Weston Road side now face three crucial away games on the bounce in the coming weeks.

First up, they visit lowly Dawley Town on Saturday as they bid to keep the pressure on the premier division leaders, and are back in Telford the following week when they take on Oakengates in a rearranged clash at Leegomery.

Then, the following week, Morda begin the defence of their premier division cup when they're on their travels again, this time to Telford Juniors.

Despite having no game last week, Craig Rogers' men remain four points adrift of leaders Church Stretton who were also left kicking their heels due to the wet weather, while second placed AFC Ludlow were held 1-1 by Shifnal 97.

Meanwhile, keeper Sam Jones and striker Gary Meredith have both turned down approaches from Haugmond and Four Crosses respectively to remain at Weston Road.

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